

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 2, 2021

Meeting Began at 5:36 PM

Attendees: Council Vice President Tency A. Eason (TA), Council Member Weldon M. Montague III (WM), Council Member Clifford R. Ross, (CR), Christopher Hartwyk (CH) Business Administrator, Adrian Mapp (AM) Finance Director; Gracia Montilus (GM) City Attorney, Avram White (AW) City Attorney, Joyce L. Lanier, (JLL) City Clerk, Marlin Towns (MT) Legislative Research Officer, Carol Perkins (CP) Citizen Representative, Tom Boran (TB) Citizen Representative, Lydell Carter (LC), Citizen Representative, Charles Pryor II (CP II), Citizen Representative

ORDINANCES-SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

1-2021 Adopting the Reock Street Redevelopment Plan – CR asked when project will be completed. CH believes construction will begin in April. MOVE FORWARD.

ORDINANCES-INTRODUCTION/FIRST READING

3-2021 Amending Chapter 4 to clarify and update qualifications for Legislative Research Officer – CR asked if Legislative Research Officer would be employee of City. CH confirmed that the LRO used to be an employee appointed by the Council under the Faulkner Act, but after an ordinance amendment, the Council has the ability to hire a firm. TE confirmed that Legislative Research Officer cannot be a part of the City Attorney's Office. MOVE FORWARD.

4-2021 Amending Chapter 210 – Stormwater Management Requirements – CH confirmed that this ordinance is required to be updated every year. MOVE FORWARD.

TABLED

24-2021 Awarding services contract for special counsel to provide legislative research officer services – GM suggested that there is no conflict with 41-2021 and will not cause conflict. SUGGEST TO REMAIN TABLED

RESOLUTIONS

*41-2021 Amending resolution 21-2020(WO) seeking to authorize additional fees – WM asked if Marlin Townes is current Legislative Research Officer, why the need to pay additional firm. CH confirmed that this is the firm that the current Legislative Research Officer works for. LC pointed out that these additional fees are small but can add up; what are the checkpoints to avoid these types of resolutions? CH advised that the Department heads are the 1st check point. CR asked about resolution amounts going over contract amounts. CH advises that these happen on a case-by-case basis and are sometimes are unavoidable. AM stressed the point of Department Heads as 1st check point. TB asked if contracts that go over the contracted amounts are tracked. TE added that sometimes quotes in contracts may need to be adjusted. MOVE FORWARD.

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- *42-2021 Amending resolution 27-2020 seeking additional authorize additional fees – **MOVE FORWARD.**
- *43-2021 Appointing Louis Harris as regular member of Zoning Board – **TB asked why so many alternates on Zoning Board. AW advised that it is listed in the NJ statue; offered to review the statue to find out why so many alternates. TE added that in the past, it was hard to get a quorum for the meetings so having multiple alternates ensures that meetings can move forward. MOVE FORWARD.**
- *44-2021 Appointing Antoinett Hall as 1st alternate member of Zoning Board – **MOVE FORWARD.**
- *45-2021 Appointing Cheryl Gayle as 2nd alternate member of Zoning Board – **MOVE FORWARD.**
- *46-2021 Appointing James Ward, III as 3rd alternate member of Zoning Board – **MOVE FORWARD.**
- *47-2021 Re-appointing Joanne Ware as regular member of Zoning Board – **MOVE FORWARD.**
- *48-2021 Appointing CP Professional Services to provide engineering services for CY 2021 – **MOVE FORWARD.**
- *49-2021 Emergency temporary appropriations for CY 2021 budget – **AM explained reason for emergency appropriations. It serves as a way to supplement areas in budget that may need additional funds; requires 2/3 vote from Council. MOVE FORWARD.**
- *50-2021 Naming February 2021 as Black History Month – **MOVE FORWARD.**
- *51-2021 Designating Adekunle James Way – Memoriam – **MOVE FORWARD.**
- *52-2021 In memoriam of Macon T. Cotton, Jr. – **MOVE FORWARD.**
- *53-2021 Approving the bill list (Grand Total: \$3,856,892.82) – **CP II noticed uptick in overtime over past two weeks, understandably so considering the recent inclement weather. TE explained that with COVID-19, much more overtime will be needed. CH confirmed that there were two overnight assignments for buildings that was deemed a public hazard due to fire and required 24-hour watch until demolition can be performed. MOVE FORWARD**
- *54-2021 Authorizing City Attorney to use alternate municipal court prosecutor on an on-call basis – **CR asked about the firms included in this resolution, to confirm if a certain law firm was included. AW will provide list. MOVE FORWARD.**
- *55-2021 Authorizing agreement with American Wear, Inc. for Public Works uniform rental and cleaning services. – **MOVE FORWARD.**
- *56-2021 Awarding contract to Associated Human Societies to provide animal shelter and veterinary services – **LC asked if circulation can be provided to citizens to**

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advise of adopting/fostering to avoid animals being put down. CH confirmed that the agencies usually have ways of posting animals for the public via websites. MOVE FORWARD.

- *57-2021 Authorizing purchase of hardware materials and supplies for Public Works from Continental Hardware, Inc. – **MOVE FORWARD**
- *58-2021 Authorizing additional funds to purchase tires from Custom Bandag, Inc. – **MOVE FORWARD**
- *59-2021 Authorizing additional funds for cash washing services from KC’s Car Wash – **MOVE FORWARD**
- *60-2021 Authorizing list of law firms for labor matters– **MOVE FORWARD**
- *61-2021 Authorizing list of law firms for litigation matters– **MOVE FORWARD**
- *62-2021 Authorizing contract with Valuepoint Computer Hardware for surveillance cameras and maintenance– **MOVE FORWARD**
- *63-2021 Authorizing cancellation of certain tax sale certificates – **MOVE FORWARD**
- *64-2021 Authorizing contract with Millennium Consultants, LLC for grant writing services– **MOVE FORWARD**
- *65-2021 Authorizing application for Governor’s Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse grant – **MOVE FORWARD**
- *66-2021 Approval to acquire the service to maintain the lights and radios for the police vehicles from Northeast Communications, Inc. – **CR suggested getting contact with company that we buy the vehicles from. CH advised that those companies don’t have a maintenance option, only installing. MOVE FORWARD**
- *67-2021 Authorizing list of law firms for redevelopment matters – **MOVE FORWARD**
- *68-2021 Authorizing Remington & Vernick Engineers to provide engineering services as a municipal engineer (Amended) – **CH confirmed that engineer is available in the building twice a week. MOVE FORWARD**
- *69-2021 Authorizing list of law firms for tax appeal matters – **TE asked for quarterly report on tax appeals matters. CH will have Tax Collector provide. MOVE FORWARD**
- *70-2021 Authorizing list of law firms for workers’ compensation matters – **MOVE FORWARD**
- *71-2021 Authorizing a contract to Nishuane Group LLC to provide professional planning consultant services – **MOVE FORWARD**

Meeting Adjourned – 6:40 PM