



## **Committee on Finance and the Northampton City Council**

*Councilor David A. Murphy, Chair  
Councilor Maureen T. Carney  
Councilor Marianne L. LaBarge  
Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra*

**City Council Chambers, 212 Main Street  
Wallace J. Puchalski Municipal Building  
Northampton, MA**

Meeting Date: December 19, 2019

Note: The Finance Committee Meeting took place during the City Council Meeting as announced. The City Council Meeting began at 7 p.m.

1. **Meeting Called To Order:** At 8:35 p.m. Councilor Murphy called the meeting to order.
2. **Roll Call:** Present were committee members David Murphy (Chair), Maureen Carney, Marianne LaBarge and Gina-Louise Sciarra. Also present from the City Council were Dennis Bidwell, William H. Dwight, Alisa Klein, Jim Nash and Ryan O'Donnell.
3. **Approval Of Minutes From The Previous Meeting**
  - A. **Minutes of December 5, 2019**

Councilor Carney moved to approve the minutes of December 5, 2019. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by voice vote.
4. **Financial Orders**
  - A. **19.177 An Order To Execute Contract Amendment Relative To The FY2020 Audit**

Councilor Murphy read the order.

Councilor LaBarge moved to forward the order with a positive recommendation. Councilor Carney seconded.

The City Council has to award a contract for an independent audit every year by September, Councilor O'Donnell reminded. That was done, and he now has a contract before him to effectuate that award. The original order awarding the contract did not have a dollar amount. Although the contract was awarded properly and both the city solicitor and finance director inform him that he could just go ahead and sign it, he has been his practice not to do so without express authorization from the full City Council, he explained.

The purpose of this is merely to get the council on record as saying it is okay to go ahead and execute the contract, he elaborated. After talking to the solicitor today, he has one amendment; he would ask someone

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on Finance to amend the order so that it authorizes the City Council President to sign on behalf of the full City Council rather than authorizing all members to sign.

Councilor Carney so moved. Councilor LaBarge seconded. The motion passed 4:0 by voice vote

Councilor Murphy called the original motion to a vote, and it passed unanimously 4:0 by voice vote.

**B. 19.189 An Order To Accept Gift Of Thermograph Imager From MIIA**

Councilor Murphy read the order.

Councilor LaBarge moved to forward the order with a positive recommendation. Councilor Carney seconded.

This was a safety grant the city applied for through the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Agency (MIIA), the city's liability insurance provider, Mayor Narkewicz advised. They had expected it to be a cash grant to purchase a thermograph imager for facilities staff but MIIA changed the nature of the grant to actually give the city the thermograph imager itself. Because it is a gift of real property, it needs to be accepted by the City Council.

Councilor LaBarge asked if this was the same as the thermal imager donated to the city after the tragic Worcester warehouse fire. Mayor Narkewicz said it was a little different since it is used by contractors to detect conditions like heat loss or moisture rather than fire.

The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by voice vote.

**C. 19.190 An Order To Authorize Five-Year Agreement For CardConnect Services At Senior Center**

Councilor Murphy read the order.

Councilor LaBarge moved to forward the order with a positive recommendation. Councilor Carney seconded.

'My Senior Center' is the proprietary software the Senior Center has had for many years, Mayor Narkewicz reminded. It allows patrons to check in and register for programs and allows the department to track the number of patrons visiting the center and accessing its services. Senior Services staff would now like to be able to offer people the ability to pay with a credit card. CardConnect Services is an add-on software and hardware to 'My Senior Center,' he explained. Like many software contracts, the minimum contract term is five years. City Council approval is required to sign contracts for more than three years.

The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by voice vote

**5. New Business**

*-Reserved for topics that the Chair did not reasonably anticipate would be discussed.*

None.

6. **Adjourn:** There being no further business, Councilor LaBarge moved to adjourn. Councilor Carney seconded. The motion carried on a voice vote of 4 Yes, 0 No. The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

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