



Committee on Finance and the Northampton City Council

*Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra, Chair
Councilor Marianne L. LaBarge, Vice Chair
Councilor Michael J. Quinlan, Jr.
Councilor John Thorpe*

Online Meeting via Teleconference

Meeting Date: February 18, 2021

Note: The Finance Committee Meeting will take place during the City Council Meeting as announced. The City Council Meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:05 pm.

- 1. Meeting Called To Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approval Of Minutes From The Previous Meeting**

A. Minutes Of January 21, 2021

Documents:

[01-21-2021_finance committee minutes.pdf](#)

4. Financial Orders

A. 21.194 An Order To Rescind Borrowing Authority - 3 Votes

Documents:

[21.194 an order to rescind borrowing authority - 3 votes.pdf](#)

B. 21.195 An Order To Appropriate Free Cash For COVID Expenses Potentially Ineligible For CARES Act Reimbursement

Documents:

[21.195 an order to appropriate free cash for covid expenses potentially ineligible for cares act reimbursement.pdf](#)

C. 21.196 An Order To Surplus 56 Vernon Street And Lease For Continued Use As Head Start Daycare And Early Education Facility

Documents:

[21.196 an order to surplus 56 vernon street and lease for continued use as head start daycare and early education facility.pdf](#)

5. New Business

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

6. Adjourn

*Contact: G-L Sciarra at glsciarra@northamptonma.gov
or 413-570-3133*



Committee on Finance and the Northampton City Council

*Councilor Gina-Louise Sciarra, Chair
Councilor Marianne LaBarge, Vice Chair
Councilor Michael J. Quinlan, Jr.
Councilor John Thorpe*

On-line Zoom Meeting

Meeting Date: January 21, 2021

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 8:54 p.m., Councilor Sciarra called the meeting to order.
2. **Roll Call:** Present were committee members Gina-Louise Sciarra (Chair), Marianne LaBarge (Vice-Chair), Michael J. Quinlan, Jr. and John Thorpe. Also present from the City Council were William H. Dwight, Alex Jarrett, Karen Foster, Rachel Maiore and Jim Nash.
3. **Approval of Minutes of December 17, 2020**
Councilor LaBarge moved to approve the minutes of December 17, 2020. Councilor Thorpe seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4:0 by roll call vote.
4. **New Business**
None.
5. **Adjourn:** There being no further business, Councilor LaBarge moved to adjourn. Councilor Quinlan seconded. The motion carried on a roll call vote of 4 Yes, 0 No. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Contact: *G-L Sciarra @glsciarra@northamptonma.gov or 413-570-3133*

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

February 18, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

21.194 An Order to Rescind Borrowing Authority - 3 Votes

Ordered, that

the City Council rescind the following orders because such borrowing authority is no longer necessary:

Order 20.075: \$150,000 of borrowing authority authorized under the loan order approved on July 9, 2021 to acquire land on Boggy Meadow Road to add to the Broad Brook –Fitzgerald Lake Greenway as the borrowing authority is no longer needed.

Order 17.272: \$1,630,000 of borrowing authority authorized under the loan order approved on April 20, 2017 for engineering and construction of repairs at the Ryan Reservoir as the project schedule and overall cost estimate is being reevaluated.

Order 17.272: \$250,000 of borrowing authority authorized under the loan order approved on April 20, 2017 for engineering and construction work related to rehabilitation and replacement of the city's primary water main transmission line as the project schedule and overall cost is being reevaluated.

City of Northampton
MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

February 18, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

21.195 An Order to Appropriate Free Cash for COVID Expenses Potentially Ineligible for CARES Act
Reimbursement

Ordered, that

the sum of \$197,669 be appropriated from the FY2021 General Fund Undesignated Fund Balance (Free Cash) to cover costs related to the city's response to the COVID-19 pandemic should they ultimately be deemed ineligible for reimbursement under the CARES Act program.

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council

February 18, 2021

Upon recommendation of the Mayor

21.196 An Order to Surplus 56 Vernon Street and Lease for Continued Use as Head Start Daycare and Early Education Facility

Ordered, that

Whereas, the City of Northampton owns a property located at 56 Vernon Street known as the former Vernon Street School, and shown on Assessors Map 31A, Parcel 112, Lot 1; and;

Whereas, In 1977, Northampton Mayor Harry Chapman executed the first lease on the former Vernon Street School property at 56 Vernon Street to Hampshire Community Action Corporation (HCAC), converting the former neighborhood elementary school into a Head Start daycare facility; and;

Whereas, Mayors Musante, Ford, Higgins, and Narkewicz, with the approval of the then-sitting City Councils, have continued that use, recognizing the value to our community and region of providing high-quality Head Start and early care and education services for low and moderate-income children; and;

Whereas, the current lease with Community Action Pioneer Valley (CAPV) is set to expire on November 20, 2023, the building is in need of additional capital improvements, and long term control of the property is a condition of eligibility for federal Head Start capital grant funding; and;

Whereas, the City of Northampton does not have a municipal use for the property and M.G.L. c. 30B, §16 requires a vote of City Council to surplus any interest in public property; and so

Now therefore be it ordered that,

The property at 56 Vernon Street is declared surplus to City of Northampton needs and is hereby transferred to the care, custody, and control of the Mayor for the purpose of leasing said property for thirty (30) years at a nominal amount with the restriction that the property can only be used for Head Start and early care and education and other related services by a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization on such terms and conditions as the Mayor deems appropriate, provided that and the lessee shall be responsible for all utilities, maintenance, repair, and replacement of all mechanical systems. The lessee shall be required to maintain the structure in a safe condition for its continued use as a Head Start facility.