

Budget & Finance Committee
Thursday, July 9, 2015 – 5:30 p.m.
1st Fl. Council Committee Rm. – City Hall
-Minutes-

Present: Chair, Councilor Melissa Cox; Vice Chair, Councilor Bill Fonvielle

Absent: Councilor Paul McGeary

Also Present: Kenny Costa; Jim Destino; John Dunn; Harbormaster Jim Caulkett; Noreen Burke; Joan Whitney; Marie Demick; Robin Crocker

The Committee meeting convened at 5:00 p.m.

1. ***Memorandum, Grant Application & Checklist from Public Health Director re: request City Council accept the third year of a three-year grant award of the Mass. Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative (MOAPC) in the amount of \$100,000***

Noreen Burke, Director of the Public Health Department, explained that this is the third year of a three-year award with two options to renew for two years each. She stated that this grant primarily supports staff and subcontractors and is unrelated to the police program. **Joan Whitney**, Director of the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative, stated that they also hire an external evaluator who helps them understand if they are making a difference. Over the years, the data shows that they have increased access to treatment and reversed overdoses with Narcan.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Fonvielle, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept a grant under MGL c. 44, §53A for \$100,000 representing the third year funding of a three-year federal grant award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services passed through the Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative for the purpose of addressing the issue of opioid misuse and abuse.

This matter will be taken up at the July 14 City Council Meeting under Committee Report.

2. ***Communication from the Chair of the Friends of the Gloucester Dog Park re: request City Council acceptance of donations totaling \$25,000***

Marie Demick introduced Robin Crocker, the new Chair of the Friends of the Gloucester Dog Park. Ms. Demick explained that a local dog owner approached them a couple of years ago before the park was even open and offered to give them solar lights and poles worth \$25,000 but the Friends would have to pay for the installation of the foundations. Ms. Demick said that there will be four lights and that the lumen field will only light the beginning and middle of the park so neighbors will not be affected. The lights will be on a timer, from dusk until the park closes at 9:00 p.m., which will be adjusted during the season as necessary. In response to a question about vandalism, Ms. Demick noted that the lights will be 25 feet high. She stated that there has been vandalism at the park in the past and they are also hoping to get a security camera in the near future.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Fonvielle, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept under MGL Chapter 44, §53A-½ the donation by the Friends of the Gloucester Dog Park to the City of Gloucester for the purchase and installation of solar lighting at the Gloucester Dog Park with a value of \$25,000.

This matter will be taken up at the July 14 City Council Meeting under Committee Report.

3. *Memorandum from Harbormaster and Supplemental Appropriation-Budgetary Requests: 2016-SA-1, -SA-2, and -SA-3*

Jim Caulkett explained that SA-1 is to create seven new transient moorings in the Ten Pound Island area. There are currently five off of Stage Head, 15 between Ten Pound Island and the breakwater, and nine in the inner harbor. There are none in the Ten Pound Island area itself. He indicated that between Memorial Day and June 30, the number of boaters visiting Gloucester and using the transient moorings doubled from last year to this year.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Fonvielle, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2016-SA-1 in the amount of \$8,500.00 (Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars) from Account #720000.10.996.59600.0000.00.000.00.059, Reserve for Appropriation Municipal Waterways Improvements & Maintenance – Transfer Out Enterprise Fund to Account #70000.10.492.58700.0000.00.000.00.058, Waterways Enterprise, Replacement of Equipment for the purpose of purchasing and installation of seven (7) new Transient Moorings and attendant mooring gear.

This matter will be taken up at the July 14 City Council Meeting under Committee Report.

Jim Caulkett explained that SA-2 is to conduct a piling survey of the Magnolia Pier public landing in compliance with the previous city ordinance to make sure our facilities are up-to-date and not in danger of collapsing. The contractor is ready to begin the work. In response to a question, Mr. Caulkett stated that the ladders on the pier are in the process of being removed.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Fonvielle, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2016-SA-2 in the amount of \$6,800.00 (Six Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars) from Account #720000.10.996.59600.0000.00.000.00.059, Reserve for Appropriation Municipal Waterways Improvements & Maintenance – Transfer Out Enterprise Fund to Account #70000.10.492.58410.0000.00.000.00.058, Waterways Enterprise, Facility Improvement for the purpose of a piling survey to be conducted for the assessment of the Magnolia Pier.

This matter will be taken up at the July 14 City Council Meeting under Committee Report.

Jim Caulkett explained that SA-3 is to repair the wharf lighting at the Harbor Cove Marina, which will be updated to LED lighting.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Fonvielle, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Supplemental Appropriation 2016-SA-3 in the amount of \$1,570.00 (One Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Dollars) from Account #750000.10.996.59600.0000.00.000.00.059, Waterways Stabilization Fund-Harbor Cove Marina-Transfer Out Enterprise Fund to Account #70000.10.492.52000.0000.00.000.00.052, Waterways Enterprise, Contractual Services for the purpose of repairs to lighting at the Harbor Cove Commercial Marina.

This matter will be taken up at the July 14 City Council Meeting under Committee Report.

4. *CC2015-021 (McGeary) Acceptance under MGL c. 44, §53A ½ the gift of restoration of four bronze plaques on the Joan of Arc Statue and two bronze plaques on the Spanish American War Memorial*

Roger Armstrong reminded the committee that he restored the plaques at City Hall last year. He stated that his intent is to raise the money necessary to restore the six major plaques and other smaller plaques at the base of the Joan of Arc statute and the Spanish American War Memorial. The work will be done by a conservator who was a principal in the Argos Foundry in Brewster, New York for 35 years. He also works in the White House and the Smithsonian. The plaques will not be removed during the restoration. Mr. Armstrong did not realize that an insurance certificate was necessary but indicated that that will be addressed within 24 hours.

Mr. Armstrong stated that he has put out a request for donations for the restoration to be made out to the Gloucester Fund. The checks will be sent to him for documentation only so that he knows when they have reached \$10,500. The checks will then be forwarded to Barry Pett at the Gloucester Fund for deposit. Any checks that come in after the \$10,500 is reached will be returned to the donors by Mr. Pett. Mr. Armstrong reported that this has not happened in the past. When the project is finished, the contractor will receive a check in the amount of \$10,500 from the Gloucester Fund. There was a discussion about what would happen if the money is not in place by September and Mr. Armstrong stated that he would increase his efforts to raise the rest of the money. He noted that two people have already told him that if he got to that point, they would cover the balance.

Mr. Armstrong stated that the work will be done in September and the estimated time to do the work is 8-9 working days, subject to the weather. If the job is delayed because of weather, the contractor will not bill for extra days of lodging.

Councilor Fonvielle asked for a general description of the donors, and Mr. Armstrong stated that they are all local people and that some of them are clients of his art gallery. Individual donors generally give \$50 to \$100 and businesses generally give between \$200 and \$1,000. He reported that Gorton's has just agreed to donate \$500. After the project is done, the Gloucester Fund will issue each donor a statement of their tax deductible donation. Councilor Fonvielle asked who will sign off on the project when the work is finished, and Mr. Armstrong stated that his understanding is that Rebecca Reynolds of the Committee for the Arts is going to be checking in as the work progresses.

Councilor Cox expressed concern with the process of approving the project this early. She would prefer to wait until Mr. Armstrong has the money in hand, which would preclude a lot of questions. Mr. Armstrong indicated that it helps him raise funds to say that the city has given its blessing to the project. **Mr. Destino** noted that Mr. Armstrong has done this work for the city in the past and that the Mayor's office has no objection to the project going forward. **Councilor Cox** expressed concern about the environmental impact of the project on the Austin Connors Garden, and Mr. Armstrong indicated that canvas will be put down to make sure that nothing hits the soil.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: On a motion by Councilor Fonvielle, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to accept under MGL Chapter 44, §53A- ½ the donation of the restoration of four bronze plaques on the Joan of Arc Statue and two bronze plaques on the Spanish American War Memorial, the work to be managed by Roger Armstrong of 4 Wonson Street, Gloucester with a value of \$10,500.

Councilor Cox stated that this recommendation is contingent on receiving the contractor's certificate of insurance and resume by Tuesday.

This matter will be taken up at the July 14 City Council Meeting under Committee Report.

5. *Memo from City Auditor regarding accounts having expenditures which exceed their authorization & Auditor's Report*

Fiscal Year 2015 Year-end Transfers under MGL c. 44, §33B - Transfer of Appropriations.

For reference purposes only - Motion below requires 2/3 vote of the City Council.

Mr. Costa explained that a transfer of \$17,500 is necessary to cover any shortfall in temporary beach positions at the end of the fiscal year.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Fonvielle, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2015-SBT-54 in the amount of \$17,500 from Account #101000.10.472.52000.0000.00.000.00.052, DPW Facilities, Contractual Services to Account #101000.10.470.51200.0000.00.000.00.051 DPW Public Property Maintenance, Salary-Wages, Temporary Positions for the purpose of funding temporary beach positions through June 30, 2015.

This matter will be taken up at the July 14 City Council Meeting under Committee Report.

Mr. Dunn explained the deficits in the FICA and Worker's Compensation accounts.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Fonvielle, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2015-SBT-55 in the amount of \$95,000 from Account #101000.10.472.52410.0000.00.000.00.052, DPW Facilities, Building Maintenance to Account #101000.10.152.51710.0000.00.000.00.051 Personnel – Worker's Compensation and Settlements for the purpose of covering the Personnel Department account deficits as of June 30, 2015.

This matter will be taken up at the July 14 City Council Meeting under Committee Report.

Mr. Dunn explained that a school choice out assessment, a special education assessment and a charter school assessment all came in effective June 30 and that the total negative variance in those three lines is approximately \$55,000.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Fonvielle, seconded by Councilor Cox, the Budget & Finance Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed, to recommend that the City Council approve Special Budgetary Transfer 2015-SBT-56 in the amount of \$55,000 from Account #101000.10.472.52000.0000.00.000.00.052, DPW Facilities, Contractual Services to Account #101000.10.820.56810.0000.00.000.00.056 Other State Assessments- School Choice Assessments for the purpose of covering the Cherry Sheet State Assessments as of June 30, 2015.

This matter will be taken up at the July 14 City Council Meeting under Committee Report.

Mr. Costa then reviewed his reports with the Committee.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Puglisi
Substitute Recording Secretary

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING: None.