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BOARD OF FINANCE

STAMFORD GOVERNMENT CENTER
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STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT 06904-2152

BOARD OF FINANCE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, December 7, 2022

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

Please join the Board of Finance Meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84765313714>

or by telephone at 1-646-558-8656 – Meeting ID: 847 6531 3714

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER:

MEMBERS PRESENT

OTHERS PRESENT:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

1. MINUTES

Request for approval of minutes of the following meeting:

11102022 Regular Monthly Meeting

11282022 Special Meeting

Submitted by: Clerk, Board of Finance

2. RESOLUTION – SAFE DEBT LIMIT – FY 23/24

Request for approval of a resolution concerning a certificate of Safe Debt Limit for Fiscal Year 2023-24. Sandy Dennies, Director of Administration will provide a report.

Action Requested: Approval of Resolution
Submitted by: Sandy Dennies, Director of Administration
Attending: Sandy Dennies

3. BUDGET UPDATE – BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ryan Fealey, Director of Finance, Board of Education, may provide a brief update on the BOE budget.

4. ACFR UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

David Yanik, City Controller; Bill Napoletano, Tax Director and Anita Carpenter, Grants Officer, may provide a brief update on progress on the ACFR.

5. REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION – BOE - SPS CUSTODIANS CONTRACT

On October 13, 2022, the Board of Education Negotiations Committee reached a tentative agreement with the Stamford Board of Education Employees Association - Custodians and Maintenance Workers on a new four-year collective bargaining agreement, effective July 1, 2021. In accordance with Section C6-20-7(c) of the City Charter, the Board of Education must now present the tentative agreement to the Board of Finance and request “an advisory opinion to the Board of Education of the total cost and potential long-term burden of the proposed agreements.”

Action Requested: Issuance of Advisory Opinion
Submitted by: Christopher Soules, Human Resources, BOE
Attending: Chris Soules
Tom Mooney, Shipman & Goodwin

6. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A CHANGE ORDER – ALTERATIONS TO THE EAST SIDE FIRE STATION

Per section 23-18.4.C.2 of the Municode, this CO exceeds the contract price by over 15% and therefore requires Board of Finance approval. The increase of \$97,000 requires no additional appropriation.

Action Requested: Approval of extra work, which exceeds the contract price by more than 15%
Amount: \$97,000
Submitted by: Louis Casolo, City Engineer
Attending: Lou Casolo
Mike Robles, Assistant Fire Chief

7. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – GLOBAL PRICE OF ENERGY INCREASE

Electricity- Electricity supply costs are seeing a significant increase year over year. Many of the city accounts are contracted through 2023 at more favorable pricing including Govt Center & much of the street lighting. The other municipal accounts are seeing the largest increase as those accounts had a contract that expired in November and were subject to current market conditions. Supply costs for that subset of accounts are going up 125%. The cost increase can be attributed to the below factors:

- 1) Global demand for Natural Gas- Natural gas has become a world commodity while the US is a primary exporter of natural gas (LNG). The continued unrest in the Ukraine has kept global natural gas prices high because Europe and others have been impacted by Russian sanctions and Russia withholding natural gas via the Nord Stream pipeline into Europe. The US has been exporting to meet this demand.
- 2) Low US Inventories- The US storage numbers for natural gas are well below the 5 year average and has been since late 2021. US production has not kept up with US demand or Global demand as production has yet to meet PRE-Covid numbers. This is problematic heading into winter.
- 3) New England Pipeline Capacity- New England has limited pipelines to bring in Natural Gas and cannot meet its regional demand in the winter. This requires New England to buy spot LNG on the international market at extremely high winter prices.
- 4) New England is HIGHLY dependent on Natural gas for electricity generation-At any given time 50-70% of New England's electricity comes from natural gas. For all of the reasons mentioned above, natural gas pricing is high which drives up electricity pricing especially in the winter. This pushes up spot pricing and fixed forward contracts.

Natural Gas- The city accounts are all currently being served by the utility from a supply perspective. All of the reasons mentioned above are also impacting natural gas costs with supply costs expected to rise close to 40%. With that said, 3rd party supply options are more expensive than the utility and CES has recommended that we continue to utilize the utility for supply.

Action Requested:	Approval of appropriation
Amount:	\$595,314
Fund/Budget:	Contingency
Submitted by:	Mayor Caroline Simmons
Attending:	Matt Quinones, Director of Operations

8. REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION – HUNT CENTER DEMOLITION

On July 15, 2022, the City's Chief Building Official determined that the city building located at 39 Courtland Avenue, known as the Hunt Center, met the criteria for imminent danger as it was deemed to be an unsafe structure and ordered the demolition, pursuant to section 117 of the 2015 IBC with CT Amendments. An invitation to bid was issued and the lowest bidder was chosen to complete the work.

Action Requested:	Approval of appropriation
Amount:	\$475,000
Fund/Budget:	Fund Balance
Submitted by:	OPM
Attending:	Matt Quinones, Director of Operation

9. CAPITAL PROJECT (CP0124) APPROPRIATION REQUEST – REPLACEMENT OF PLANT WATER AND RAS PUMPS

Request for capital project appropriation for FY 22/23 to upgrade the plant water pumps and strainer system and replace existing Return Activated Sludge (RAS) pumps for more efficient operation.

Action Requested: Approval of appropriation
Amount: \$3,600,000
Fund/Budget: Bond (WPCA)
Submitted by: OPM
Attending: William Brink, WPCA
Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM

10. RESOLUTION TO AMEND FY 22/23 CAPITAL BUDGET BY ADDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$3,600,000 FOR WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PROJECT REPLACEMENT OF PLANT WATER AND RAS PUMPS AND AUTHORIZING \$3,600,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION

Action Requested: Approval of Resolution
Amount: \$3,600,000
Submitted by: Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM
Attending: Tony Romano

11. CAPITAL PROJECT (C22046) APPROPRIATION REQUEST – PERNA LANE AREA SEWERS

Request for capital project appropriation for FY 22/23. Properties in the neighborhood of Perna Lane have failing septic systems. Phase 1 of the sewer project will serve properties on the eastside of High Ridge Road between Perna Lane and Merritt Parkway.

Action Requested: Approval of appropriation
Amount: \$1,800,000
Fund/Budget: Bond (WPCA)
Submitted by: OPM
Attending: William Brink, WPCA
Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM

12. RESOLUTION TO AMEND FY 22/23 CAPITAL BUDGET BY ADDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1,800,000 FOR WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PROJECT – PERNA LANE AREA SEWERS – PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING \$1,800,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION

Action Requested: Approval of Resolution
Amount: \$1,800,000
Submitted by: Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM
Attending: Tony Romano

13. CAPITAL PROJECT (C71201) APPROPRIATION REQUEST – UPGRADE OF ULTRA-VIOLET DISINFECTION SYSTEM

Request for capital project appropriation for FY 22/23. Ultra-Violet disinfecting is used to disinfect treated wastewater prior to discharging to Long Island Sound. The existing system has no built in redundancy as required by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environment Protection Regulations.

Action Requested: Approval of appropriation
Amount: \$50,000
Fund/Budget: Bond (WPCA)
Submitted by: OPM
Attending: William Brink, WPCA
Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM

14. RESOLUTION TO AMEND FY 22/23 CAPITAL BUDGET BY ADDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$50,000 FOR WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PROJECT – UPGRADE OF ULTRA-VIOLET DISINFECTION SYSTEM PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING \$50,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION

Action Requested: Approval of Resolution
Amount: \$50,000
Submitted by: Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM
Attending: Tony Romano

15. CAPITAL PROJECT (CP5147) APPROPRIATION REQUEST – UPGRADE PLANT HEADWORKS
Request for capital project appropriation for FY 22/23. Upgrade of the Raw Sewage Pump Station at the WPCF including screenings removal, raw sewage pumping and septage receiving.

Action Requested: Approval of appropriation
Amount: \$50,000
Fund/Budget: Bond (WPCA)
Submitted by: OPM
Attending: William Brink, WPCA
Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM

16. RESOLUTION TO AMEND FY 22/23 CAPITAL BUDGET BY ADDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$50,000 FOR WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PROJECT – UPGRADE PLANT HEADWORKS - AND AUTHORIZING \$50,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION

Action Requested: Approval of Resolution
Amount: \$50,000
Submitted by: Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM
Attending: Tony Romano

17. CAPITAL PROJECT (CP1455) APPROPRIATION REQUEST – PRIMARY SLUDGE DE-GRITTING SYSTEM

Request for capital project appropriation for FY 22/23. The existing de-gritting system needs to be replaced with a more efficient system for separating the grit from the primary sludge. Additional request due to inclusion of primary clarifier arm and drive unit replacement and inflation costs.

Action Requested: Approval of appropriation
Amount: \$4,500,000
Fund/Budget: Bond (WPCA)
Submitted by: OPM
Attending: William Brink, WPCA
Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM

18. RESOLUTION TO AMEND FY 22/23 CAPITAL BUDGET BY ADDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$4,500,000 FOR WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PROJECT – PRIMARY SLUDGE DE-GRITTING SYSTEM - AND AUTHORIZING \$4,500,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION

Action Requested: Approval of Resolution
Amount: \$4,500,000
Submitted by: Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM
Attending: Tony Romano

19. CAPITAL PROJECT (CP5025) APPROPRIATION REQUEST – AERATION BLOWERS UPGRADE

Request for capital project appropriation for FY 22/23. Upgrade existing aeration blowers to high efficiency blowers and other improvements to secondary treatment process.

Action Requested: Approval of appropriation
Amount: \$50,000
Fund/Budget: Bond (WPCA)
Submitted by: OPM
Attending: William Brink, WPCA
Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM

20. RESOLUTION TO AMEND FY 22/23 CAPITAL BUDGET BY ADDING AN APPROPRIATION OF \$50,000 FOR WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PROJECT – AERATION BLOWERS UPGRADE – AND AUTHORIZING \$50,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE CITY TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION

Action Requested: Approval of Resolution
Amount: \$50,000
Submitted by: Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM
Attending: Tony Romano

21. CAPITAL PROJECT (C5B613) APPROPRIATION REQUEST – BOE DISTRICT WIDE BOILER AND BURNER REPLACEMENT

Eversource Energy Efficient Services incentive rebate for Rippowam Middle School Boiler Plant Replacement Project.

Action Requested: Approval of appropriation
Amount: \$83,488
Fund/Budget: BOE Capital/Rebate
Submitted by: OPM
Attending: Louis Casolo, City Engineer
Anthony Romano, Management Analyst, OPM

22. DISCUSSION – BOE CAPITAL PROJECTS – GRANT APPLICATIONS

Review of previously authorized BOE capital projects that are eligible for State grant reimbursement but have not been submitted for reimbursement.

Submitted by: Richard Freedman, Chair
Attending: Cindy Grafstein, City/BOE Facilities Officer

23. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND ANTINOZZI ASSOCIATES, P.C. FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR RENOVATIONS TO THE SCIENCE WING OF STAMFORD HIGH SCHOOL.

This a two-phase project. Antinozzi will complete the bid documents for Phase 1 within four months of the final approval/execution of this Agreement. The full project schedule and milestone dates will also be developed and completed during that time. The current construction cost estimates are \$845,103.00 for Phase 1 and \$4,689,726.00 for Phase 2. Antinozzi's fee for these design services is a flat \$305,500.00.

Action Requested: Approval of Contract
Amount: \$305,500
Fund/Budget: Capital
Submitted by: Mayor Caroline Simmons
Attending: TBD

Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in this meeting should contact the ADA Coordinator as soon as possible:
Vikki Cooper, ADA Coordinator, City of Stamford Department of Social Services,
888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT 06901 (203) 977-5726.

Tracy Donoghue
Tracy Donoghue
Clerk of the Board