

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
JUNE 23, 2022 – 4:30 p.m.

Committee Members present: Councilor David A. Witham, Chair
Councilor Don Austin, Vice-Chair
Councilor Matt Gerding
Councilor Martin P. Dumont, Sr.

Administration/Staff present: City Manager Bob Belmore
Finance Director Scott Smith
Director of Public Works Michael Bobinsky
Welfare Officer Kristen LaPanne

Chairman Witham called the meeting to order at 4:27 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Councilor Austin made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Dumont and passed 4-0

FIRE ENGINE-3 (E-3) REPAIR

City Manager Belmore gave an update that the Public Safety Committee met prior to this meeting to discuss the Fire Engine-3 and reported that the Committee was in support of the repairs to E-3. Manager Belmore explained that E-3 experienced a catastrophic failure to the water pump in which debris was sucked in ultimately damaging the motor. E-3 is approximately 21-22 years old and has been estimated to have another 7-8 years of “life” left according to the Chief. He spoke to regular maintenance being done as scheduled. Currently, E-3 is in Concord where it was towed to. The cost of the motor repair was quoted at \$39,387, Belmore suggests to include some contingency funds. Belmore stated that waiting until July 1, 2022 would ensure the expense comes from the 2022-2023 fiscal year from the Fire Department repair line within their budget. The City can consider a supplemental appropriation to the budget if necessary, or a budget transfer, later in the next fiscal year.

Councilor Witham commented that Fire Engine-2 (E-2) seemingly was sold prematurely before having received the new truck. Councilor Witham supports the Fire Engine-3 repair.

Councilor Gerding asked if there was a warranty on the truck or piece that needs repair. Belmore confirmed that this is not the case as the truck is too old to still have a warranty. Councilor Gerding agrees with waiting until July 1 and supports the repair.

Councilor Austin is in agreeance with the need to repair E-3 along with the strategy to wait until July 1, the beginning of the next fiscal year.

Councilor Dumont agrees to E-3 repairs and asked if Chief Kramlinger has explored already re-built motors to avoid labor costs. Chief confirmed he had but motors available are newer in age and have newer emission controls and other features not possible for a truck of this age and uniqueness. Chief Kramlinger suggests that the best option from a functional and cost perspective, is to repair the

current motor. Dumont retorted that he expects there would be motors with higher mileage available for replacement. Chief confirmed that is not an option and that the motor in question doesn't exist.

Councilor Austin made a motion to Repair Fire Engine-3's motor for an amount up to \$50,000. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gerding and passed 4-0

REPORTING

None

MISCELLANEOUS

Director Smith provided an update to the Committee regarding the Budget Transfer Ordinance which passed with City Council. Director Smith shared that the City staff attended a Cyber Training involving Homeland Security and Primex representatives, he stated that the training was well received by staff and interesting.

Councilor Gerding questioned where the City is at with their budget so far this year. Smith reported that, without including the school budget, the City will be about \$300,000 under spent. Smith will reach out for an update on the school budget status.

Councilor Dumont inquired about the solar farm and current status. Director Smith reported that Ameresco has been in the process of inter-connectivity with Eversource which is taking up much of their time, he will reach out for an update.

City Manager Belmore spoke to the ARPA money that was available for "Complete Streets" construction of Main Street and Constitutional Way projects. We were approved for a grant of \$669,000. For water and sewer work, but that would have to get Council commitment for funding and we probably are not in a position financially to do that right now. Manager Belmore said he expects there will be another opportunity next year and suggested waiting until then. The Committee members agreed. Councilor Gerding asked if it were possible to put those funds towards another project, Belmore confirmed that the funds were only meant for that specific project.

Councilor Witham noted that he observed Cemetery Road and reports the final paving to be complete tomorrow and the loop road behind the school paving to be completed Monday.

Councilor Dumont noted that the Black Water Road culvert wasn't looking too good. Director Bobinski reported that there has been beaver activity in which staff have had to clean out debris as it was causing the flow to slow, he expects to have staff conduct monthly inspections going forward. Bobinski stated staff will continue to monitor the culvert as well as downstream towards Tates Brook which is currently flowing good.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Austin made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gerding and passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Welfare Officer, Kristen LaPanne

Finance Committee
June 23, 2022