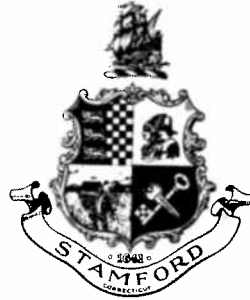


Minutes: January 8, 2015

DAVID R. MARTIN  
MAYOR

JOHN J. LOUIZOS  
CHAIRMAN  
MARY LOU T. RINALDI  
VICE CHAIR  
GERALD BOSAK, JR.  
SAL GABRIELE  
RICHARD FREEDMAN  
DUDLEY N. WILLIAMS  
TEL: (203) 977-4699



## BOARD OF FINANCE

STAMFORD GOVERNMENT CENTER  
888 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD  
P.O. BOX 10152  
STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT 06904-2152

# MINUTES

### Regular Meeting

Thursday, January 8, 2015: 6:30 PM

Board of Finance Meeting Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

**Call to Order:** (Video: 00:00) Performed by Chairman John J. Louizos at 6:40 PM, noting that all Members were present except Mr. Bosak, who had a work commitment.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Video: 00:01 Led by Chairman Louizos

**Approval of Minutes:** (Video:00:02) December 17, 2014: 6:30 PM: Regular Meeting

	<b>Approved</b>
	<b>4-0-1</b>
	<b>Motion by</b>
	<b>D. Williams</b>
	<b>Seconded</b>
Mr. Gabriele abstained from voting, noting that he was not present at the 12/17 meeting .	<b>M. Rinaldi</b>

**Public Participation:** None

**Reports to the Board:** None

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

*Discussion: Executive Session Request*

<b>Item 1</b>	Discussion: Update on Labor Negotiations & Strategy: Mayor Martin		<b>No Action Taken</b>
	<i>Action Requested:</i>	Discussion	
	<i>Amount:</i>	\$	
	<i>Fund/Budget:</i>		
	<i>Submitted by:</i>	Mayor David Martin	
	Video: 00:03	<p>The Mayor reported that since he wanted to discuss labor strategy and negotiations as well as an on-going investigation, that this item and Item # 2 ( following) should be heard in executive session. He also advised that he first wished to review an analysis of Employee costs along with a review of unfunded OPEB &amp; Pension Liability performed for Police as an example. Regarding the former report, the analysis showed that it was more cost effective to pay overtime rather than hire additional employees due to benefits representing an average of 77% of base salary. Relating to latter item, the unfunded liability was divided by the number of employees to arrive at an average liability for both active and retired police officers, but the Mayor said it was applicable for all unions, although the Police was the highest. The Mayor then advised the Board that he was ready to provide an update on labor negotiations as well as a report on an investigation (Item # 2) relating to misappropriation of funds. On a motion by Ms. Rinaldi (video: 00:28), which was seconded by Mr. Freedman, the Board agreed by unanimous vote to hear these items in executive session due to discussion of negotiations, strategy &amp; an on-going investigation. In addition to Board of Finance Chairman John J. Louizos, Vice Chair Mary Lou Rinaldi Members Richard Freedman, Dudley Williams and Sal Gabriele, the following individuals took part in executive session: Mayor David Martin, Director of Administration Michael Handler, Director of Legal Affairs Kathy Emmett, &amp; Human Resource Director Clemon Williams. After approximately 40 minutes, the Board exited executive session, with Chairman Louizos stating that no action was taken.</p>	

*Discussion: Executive Session Request*

<b>Item 2</b>	Discussion: Update on Investigations: Mayor Martin		<b>No Action Taken</b>
	<i>Action Requested:</i>	Discussion	
	<i>Amount:</i>	\$	
	<i>Fund/Budget:</i>		
	<i>Submitted by:</i>	Mayor David Martin	
	Video: 00:03	See Minutes for Item # 1, above.	

*Items are Shown in Order of Consideration*

**GRANTS- Estimated Start Time: 7:00 PM**

*DUI Enforcement*

<b>Item 3</b>	Request for Approval of Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$6375 due to receipt of larger than anticipated funds from the State, to be used for police personnel to conduct traffic stops, on an overtime basis, for Driving Under the Influence infractions.		<b>Approved</b>
	<b>Action Requested:</b>	Additional Appropriation	<b>5-0-0</b>
	<b>Amount:</b>	\$6375: 100% Grant	<b>Motion by</b>
	<b>Fund/Budget:</b>	State Grant (75%) City Match (25%)	<b>M. Rinaldi</b>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	Jon Fontneau, Chief of Police	<b>Seconded</b>
	Video: 00:31	Grants Administrator Karen Cammarota reported that this was a grant received in an amount larger than expected for Police to conduct DUI traffic stops on an overtime basis. On a motion by Ms. Rinaldi, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, the Board acted to approve this appropriation by unanimous vote.	<b>D. Williams</b>

*Medical Reserve Corp*

<b>Item 4</b>	Request for Approval of Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$4,000 to pay for uniforms and medical, emergency and office supplies for the Medical Reserve Corp which is a volunteer unit trained to assist during public health emergencies.		<b>Approved</b>
	<b>Action Requested:</b>	Additional Appropriation	<b>5-0-0</b>
	<b>Amount:</b>	\$4,000	<b>Motion by</b>
	<b>Fund/Budget:</b>	100% Grant Funded	<b>S. Gabriele</b>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	Ann Fountain, Director of Health	<b>Seconded</b>
	Video: 00:31	Director of Health Fountain reported that these were funds for the MRC for which there was no City match. The Board acted to approve this item by unanimous vote.	<b>D. Williams</b>

*Day Care Grant*

<b>Item 5</b>	Request for Approval of Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$56,896 due to receiving higher than expected amount budgeted. Funds are contracted out to CLC to provide day care services.		<b>Approved</b>
	<b>Action Requested:</b>	Additional Appropriation	<b>5-0-0</b>
	<b>Amount:</b>	\$56,896	<b>Motion by</b>
	<b>Fund/Budget:</b>	100% Grant Funded	<b>D. Williams</b>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	Karen Cammarota, Grants Director	<b>Seconded</b>
	Video: 00:31	Ms. Cammarota reported that these funds were subcontracted to Childcare Learning Center (CLC). In response to a question from Ms. Rinaldi, Ms. Cammarota advised that CLC was the sole contractor for the Day Care Grant.	<b>R. Freedman</b>

**OFFICE OF LEGAL AFFAIRS**

*Additional Appropriation*

<b>Item 6</b>	Request for Approval of Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$250,000 to pay additional legal fees associated with outside legal counsel related to union labor negotiations as well as miscellaneous legal consulting fees.		<b>Approved</b>
	<b>Action Requested:</b>	Additional Appropriation	<b>4-1-0</b>
	<b>Amount:</b>	\$250,000	<b>Motion by</b>
	<b>Fund/Budget:</b>	Contingency	<b>M. Rinaldi</b>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	Kathryn Emmett, Director of Legal Affairs	<b>Seconded</b>
Video: 00: 33	Director of Administration Handler reported that these costs were incurred due to the fact that the City decided to engage an outside firm to assist in labor negotiations. Mr. Gabriele stated that he objected to hiring an outside firm when the City already had a Labor Negotiator position for this purpose. Director Handler said that these were for two different functions, as the in-house Labor Negotiator dealt with employees and grievances on a day-to-day basis, working within the HR Department, while the outside counsel was an expert in labor negotiations endowed with a breathe of knowledge and an ability to provide strategic advice. Several other Board members concurred, noting that an outside expert was able to achieve results that an inside negotiator could not (Mr. Freedman); that it was imperative to attain outside expertise who did this every day (Mr. Williams), that this Board had previously pushed for outside assistance due to labor costs being so high (Ms. Rinaldi) and that it was best practices that other municipalities were also utilizing, and money well spent (Chairman Louizos). On a motion by Ms. Rinaldi, who added that she was happy to support this, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, the Board then acted to approve this appropriation by a vote of 4-1-0, with Mr. Gabriele dissenting.	<b>D. Williams</b>	

*Smith House: Transfer*

<b>Item 7</b>	Request for Transfer from the Salaries Account to the Contracted Services Account in the amount of \$112,000 due to the hiring of an outside company engaged to perform the duties of managing the Dietary Department through November.		<b>Approved</b>
	<b>Action Requested:</b>	Transfer	<b>4-1-0</b>
	<b>Amount:</b>	\$112,000	<b>Motion by</b>
	<b>Fund/Budget:</b>		<b>D. Williams</b>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	Bob Mislow, Executive Director	<b>Seconded</b>
Video: 00:44	OPM Director Hricay reported that this transfer was sought due to the engagement of an outside consultant to temporarily manage the Dietary Department due to the retirement of the supervisor who performed this function. The Board considered holding this item, noting the absence	<b>R. Freedman</b>	

	of Director Mislow. While they acted to approve this transfer, Mr. Handler suggested that Director Mislow come to the February meeting to discuss Smith House. On a motion by Mr. Williams, which was seconded by Mr. Freedman, the Board then acted by a vote of 4-1-0, with Ms. Rinaldi dissenting, to approve this transfer. Chairman Louizos added that this Board expected Director Mislow to be present for Smith House requests.	
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**OFFICE OF OPERATIONS**

*Recycling*

<b>Item 8</b>	Request for Approval of Transfer in the amount of \$25,000 from the Salaries Account to the Seasonal Account to cover a shortfall in the latter due to an employee out on Worker's Compensation all year.		<b>Approved</b>
	<i>Action Requested:</i>	Transfer	<b>5-0-0</b>
	<i>Amount:</i>	\$25,000	<b>Motion by</b>
	<i>Fund/Budget:</i>	General Fund	<b>R. Freedman</b>
	<i>Submitted by:</i>	Ernie Orgera, Director of Operations	<b>Seconded</b>
Video: 00:46	Solid Waste Supervisor Dan Colleluori relayed to the Board that they were requesting a transfer to the seasonal account due to a shortfall in this account.	<b>D. Williams</b>	

*Lathan Wider Center/Yerwood Center*

<b>Item 9</b>	Request for Approval of Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$72,000 to pay for higher than anticipated maintenance costs due to increased occupancy including seasonal help, maintenance and housekeeping supplies (\$47K) at the Lathan Wider Center as well as overtime & building maintenance expenses incurred for emergency work provided to the Yerwood Center(\$25K).		<b>Approved</b>
	<i>Action Requested:</i>	Additional Appropriation	<b>5-0-0</b>
	<i>Amount:</i>	\$72,000	<b>Motion by</b>
	<i>Fund/Budget:</i>	Contingency	<b>R. Freedman</b>
	<i>Submitted by:</i>	Ernie Orgera, Director of Operations	<b>Seconded</b>
Video: 00:47	OPM Director Hricay advised that they were seeking a \$72K appropriation which was for both the Lathan Wider Center (\$47K) as well as Yerwood (\$25K). Facilities Manager Kevin Murray stated that due to increased activity at CTE (Lathan Wider Community Center), the City incurred increased costs to maintain the building, noting that the building was open from 7AM to 9 PM. Mr. Freedman asked about the business case for the Yerwood Center, with Ms. Rinaldi noting that there was a leadership gap at this center. Director Handler advised that there were no activities at the Yerwood, but that the City needed to maintain the building. Mr. Murray added that there was a soup kitchen on the first level. While the Board acted to approve this appropriation, Chairman Louizos asked that the Board be kept up to the date on this matter.	<b>D. Williams</b>	

**OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION**

*Safe Debt Limit*


<b>Item 10</b>	Approval of Board of Finance Resolution concerning Certificate of Safe Debt Limit for Fiscal Year 2015-2016.		<b>Approved at \$60M</b>
	<b>Action Requested:</b>	Approval of Safe Debt Limit	<b>4-1-0</b>
	<b>Amount:</b>	\$60M	<b>Motion by</b>
	<b>Fund/Budget:</b>	Capital	<b>R. Freedman</b>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	Michael Handler, Director of Administration	<b>Seconded</b>
Video: 00:51	<p>Director of Administration Handler again reviewed his recommendation for a \$60M Safe Debt Limit for 15-16, \$45M for FY 16-17 and \$25M for each subsequent year which he originally presented to the Board at the December meeting. The Board again engaged in discussion on the proposed spending plan, including comments that the plan for the magnet school should proceed even if the school is closed as it is a great financial deal for the City (Mr. Freedman); that State funding should be explored to mitigate the cost of the Police building (Mr. Williams), and that this Board would have to carefully review the upcoming capital budget in light of these two major projects (Ms. Rinaldi). While Mr. Gabriele made a motion for a safe debt limit of \$35M, it was not seconded; and the Board acted to approve the \$60M recommended amount, with Mr. Gabriele casting the dissenting vote.</p>		<b>D. Williams</b>

*Bond Resolution*

<b>Item 11</b>	Request for Approval of Resolution with Respect to Issuance & Sale of Not to Exceed \$40M of City of Stamford General Obligation Refunding Bonds.		<b>Approved</b>
	<b>Action Requested:</b>	Bond Resolution	<b>5-0-0</b>
	<b>Amount:</b>	NTE \$40M	<b>Motion by</b>
	<b>Fund/Budget:</b>	Capital	<b>D. Williams</b>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	Michael Handler, Director of Administration	<b>Seconded</b>
Video: 01:21	<p>Director of Administration Handler stated that he is recommending this refinancing – Issuance of 2005- because the analysis points to savings of approximately \$4M spread out over 9 years. He provided the Board with three different scenario trade dates from mid-February to mid- April, with the most savings noted for the Mid-April trade date due to its settlement in line with the May call date. Mr. Freedman stated that since no one knew where interest rates were going, that he was in favor of the mid April trade date to avoid paying a penalty. On a motion by Mr. Williams, which was seconded by Mr. Freedman, Board acted to approve this resolution by unanimous vote.</p>		<b>R. Freedman</b>

**Next Regular Meeting of the Board:** Thursday, February 12, 2015 @ 7:00 P.M.

**Adjournment:** (Video: 01:31) On a motion by Mr. Williams which was seconded by M. Rinaldi, the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn this meeting at 8:50 PM.

  
Lorraine C. Gilden

Lorraine C. Gilden  
Clerk of the Board