



City of Racine

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Meeting Minutes - Final

Finance and Personnel Committee

Chair Natalia Taft
Vice Chair Marcus West
Alder Sam Peete
Alder Jason Meekma
Alder John Tate II

Monday, November 8, 2021

5:30 PM

Virtual

Call To Order

PRESENT: 4 - Chair Taft, Vice Chair West, Alder Peete and Alder Meekma

EXCUSED: 1 - Alder Tate II

Approval of Minutes for the October 25, 2021 Meeting.

A motion was made by Alder West, seconded by Alder Meekma, to Approve the Minutes

[0890-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder West, to approve a resolution authorizing the sale and issuance of \$14,785,000 of 2021 refunding bonds dated December 17, 2021 to refund the 2021 Note Anticipation Notes issued September 28, 2021.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: To approve a resolution authorizing the sale and issuance of \$14,785,000 of 2021 refunding bonds dated December 17, 2021 to refund the 2021 Note Anticipation Notes issued September 28, 2021.

Fiscal Note: No new money will be included in the issue. Payments due in the years 2022 through 2035.

RW Baird representative Brad Viegut, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder West, seconded by Alder Meekma, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0858-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder West for review and approval of the 2022 Operating Plan for Business Improvement District No. 1, Downtown.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: That the proposed 2022 Operating Plan for Business Improvement District No. 1, Downtown be approved and that the Finance

Director be directed to include the District's special charges on the 2021 property tax bills of the affected parcels.

Fiscal Note: It is estimated that \$201,732.06 will be raised through BID assessments to be disbursed to the Business Improvement District No. 1, Downtown.

Racine Downtown Assoc. representative Kelly Kruse, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder West, seconded by Alder Peete, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0868-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder Edwin Santiago, Jr. for review and approval of the Douglas Avenue Business Improvement District (BID) No. 4 2022 Operating Plan.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: That the proposed 2022 Operating Plan for the Douglas Avenue Business Improvement District (BID) No. 4 be approved and the Finance Director be authorized and directed to include the District's special charges on the 2021 property tax bills of the affected parcels within the district.

Fiscal Note: It is estimated that \$40,775 will be raised through BID assessments to be disbursed to the Douglas Avenue BID No. 4.

Douglas Ave. Bid Treasurer David Namowicz, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder Meekma, seconded by Alder Peete, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0889-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder John Tate, II for review and approval of the Uptown Business Improvement District (BID) No. 3 2022 Operating Plan.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: That the proposed 2022 Operating Plan for the Uptown Business Improvement District (BID) No. 3 be approved and that the Finance Director be authorized and directed to include the District's special charges on the 2021 property tax bills of the affected parcels within the district.

Fiscal Note: It is estimated that \$46,000 will be raised through BID assessments to be disbursed to the Uptown BID No. 3.

Assistant Director Dept. of City Development Rejc, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder West, seconded by Alder Meekma, that this file

be Recommended For Approval

[0882-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder West, on behalf of the Chief of Police, requesting to apply for the 2021 Local Community Grant sponsored by Walmart. (Grant Control #00406).

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: Approval to apply for the 2021 Local Community Grant sponsored by Walmart.

Fiscal Note: Grant amount is \$2,500.00. **City Match:** None

Finance Director Fischer, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder Peete, seconded by Alder West, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0552-21](#)

Subject: Resolution Regarding Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse Chicory Rd Sewer Improvements Project

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: To approve and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign the Comfort Resolution regarding Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse for the Chicory Rd Sewer Improvements Project

Fiscal Note: The Racine Wastewater Utility is applying for a Clean Water Fund Loan. All costs expended attributed to the sewer improvements project may be rolled into the loan, and principal forgiveness may be awarded to reduce the amount borrowed

Interim General Manager of Wastewater Utility Gitter, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder Meekma, seconded by Alder West, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0887-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder Lemke on behalf of the Public Health Administrator requesting permission to accept \$892,700 from the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services for Local Public Health Departments Consolidated Contract COVID-19 Programs with grants included as follows: \$114,100 - Immunization COVID Supp3 (Profile 155809) (Grant Control #00408); \$660,700 - ARPA COVID Recovery (Profile 155811) (Grant Control #00410); \$117,900 - Public Health Workforce (Profile 155812) Grant Control #00409)

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: That the department be authorized to enter into an agreement and accept funding from the State of Wisconsin Department

of Health Services for Local Public Health Departments Consolidated Contract COVID-19 Programs with grants included as follows: \$114,100 - Immunization COVID Supp3 (Profile 155809) (Grant Control #00408); \$660,700 - ARPA COVID Recovery (Profile 155811) (Grant Control #00410); \$117,900 - Public Health Workforce (Profile 155812) (Grant Control #00409)

Fiscal Note: Consolidated contract is in the amount of \$892,700 there is no local match.

Public Health Administrator Bowersox, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder Peete, seconded by Alder Meekma, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0888-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder Lemke on behalf of the Public Health Administrator requesting permission to accept \$316,103 from the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services for Local Public Health Departments Consolidated Contract Programs with grants included as follows: \$63,580 - Bioterrorism Focus A Planning (Profile 155015) (Grant Control #00389); \$29,823 - Bioterrorism Preparedness Cities Readiness Initiative (Profile 155190) (Grant Control #00390); \$222,700 - Infant Mortality (Profile 110190) (Grant Control #00407)

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: That the department be authorized to enter into an agreement and accept funding from the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services for Local Public Health Departments Consolidated Contract Programs with grants included as follows: \$63,580 - Bioterrorism Focus A Planning (Profile 155015) (Grant Control #00389); \$29,823 - Bioterrorism Preparedness Cities Readiness Initiative (Profile 155190) (Grant Control #00390); \$222,700 - Infant Mortality (Profile 110190) (Grant Control #00407)

Fiscal Note: Consolidated Contract totals \$316,103, with three separate grants included in the contract There is no local match.

Public Health Administrator Bowersox, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder West, seconded by Alder Meekma, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0913-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder West, on behalf of the Finance Director and Purchasing Agent, submitting bid results for Contract 2021095- Official Notice #8-2021 RFP Accounting & Compliance Services

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: That Contract 2021095- Official Notice #8-2021 RFP Accounting & Compliance Services be awarded to CliftonLarsonAllen LLP in the amount of \$134,500.

Fiscal Note: Funds have been previously allocated by the Common Council. Funding is available in 22910 52100 22902 ARPA Professional Services-Compliance

Finance Director Fischer, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder West, seconded by Alder Meekma, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0916-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Mayor Mason to amend a CDBG funding agreement executed pursuant to Resolution #0325-18.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: To authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute an amendment to a CDBG funding agreement between the City of Racine and LSS Housing-Gold Medal Lofts, LLC pursuant to Resolutions #0325-18 and #0032-19.

Fiscal Note: No changes to the loan terms and repayment are contemplated.

Assistant Director Dept. of City Development Rejc, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder West, seconded by Alder Peete, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0892-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Mayor Mason requesting permission to apply to the Wisconsin Department of Administration under the Healthcare Infrastructure Capital Grant Program. Grant control #00411

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: To authorize a grant application to the Wisconsin Department of Administration under the Healthcare Infrastructure Capital Grant Program. Grant control #00411

Fiscal Note: The grant is up to \$20,000,000 and requires no City match.

City Administrator Vornholt, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder West, seconded by Alder Meekma, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0909-21](#)

Subject: Communication from Mayor Mason requesting allocation and expenditure of \$28,596,465 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for Homeownership, Neighborhood Revitalization, Workforce Opportunities, Community Resiliency, Sustainability, Smart Cities, and Budget Stabilization.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: That the request from Mayor Mason to allocate and expend \$28,596,465 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for Limited Term Employees, Contracted Services, Developing Policies and Programs for Homeownership, Neighborhood Revitalization, Workforce Opportunities, Community Resiliency, Sustainability, Smart Cities, and Budget Stabilization be approved. Staff has reviewed and confirmed all applicable ARPA rules to verify that all uses are allowable.

Fiscal Note: Total American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding allocated not to exceed \$28,596,465. The ARPA funds are currently uncommitted and require no City match

City Administrator Vornholt and Manager of Strategic Initiatives & Community Partnerships Selkove, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder West, seconded by Alder Meekma, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0857-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Mayor Mason on behalf of the Human Resources Benefit Manager requesting permission to waive formal bidding for implementation of a student loan repayment assistance program and award contract to Baker Tilly for services to be provided.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: To waive formal bidding and enter into an agreement with Baker Tilly for implementation and management of a student loan repayment assistance program.

Fiscal Note: Funds are available in account number: 22910 52100 ARPA Professional Services

Human Resources Benefits Manager Lien, Finance Director Fischer and Mayor Mason, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder Meekma, seconded by Alder West, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0839-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder West on behalf of the City Attorney requesting authorization for the City Attorney's Office to represent all current and retired City employees in *Russell v. Comstock, et al.*, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin Case No.

21-CV-151-JPS.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: That the City Attorney's Office be authorized to represent all current and retired City employees in *Russell v. Comstock, et al.*, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin Case No. 21-CV-151-JPS.

Fiscal Note: Current and retired City employees will be represented by outside counsel. Outside counsel will be paid from Atty-Professional Services, Account 11004 52100. Total fees are to be determined.

City Attorney Letteney, appeared before the committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder West, seconded by Alder Peete, that this file be Recommended For Approval

[0840-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder West on behalf of the City Attorney requesting authorization for the City Attorney's Office to represent all City employees in *Edwards v. City of Racine, et al.*, Racine County Circuit Court Case No. 2021 CV 1300.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: That the City Attorney's Office be authorized to represent all City employees in *Edwards v. City of Racine, et al.*, Racine County Circuit Court Case No. 2021 CV 1300.

Fiscal Note: City employees will be represented in house by City of Racine City Attorney's Office at no additional cost.

City Attorney Letteney, appeared before the committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder West, seconded by Alder Meekma, that this file be Recommended For Approval

Closed Session

It is intended that the Finance and Personnel Committee will convene in closed session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(g), to confer with legal counsel concerning strategy with respect to litigation in which the City of Racine is involved.

A motion was made by Alder Taft, seconded by Alder Meekma, to go into Closed Session.

The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 4 - Chair Taft, Vice Chair West, Alder Peete and Alder Meekma

EXCUSED: 1 - Alder Tate II

Open Session

The Committee will return to open session and may take action on any item discussed in closed session.

A motion was made by Alder West, seconded by Alder Meekma, to go into Open Session.

The motion PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 4 - Chair Taft, Vice Chair West, Alder Peete and Alder Meekma

EXCUSED: 1 - Alder Tate II

[0915-21](#)

Subject: Communication sponsored by Alder West, on behalf of the City Attorney, requesting the City attorney meet with the Finance and Personnel Committee concerning litigation in which the City is involved, specifically *W. H. Pugh Coal v City of Racine, 2020CV001028*.

Recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee on 11-08-2021: To Approve the settlement agreement as presented.

Fiscal Note: Funding for the \$70,000 settlement amount will come from Tax Increment District 14.

City Attorney Letteney and Deputy City Attorney Larsen, appeared before the committee to speak on the item.

A motion was made by Alder Taft, seconded by Alder Peete, that this file be Recommended For Approval

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 7:57p.m. The next schedule meeting of the Committee is at 5:30p.m. on Monday, November 29, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Alder Taft, Chair

Finance & Personnel Committee