



# City of Racine

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Finance and Personnel Committee

*Chairman Q.A. Shakoor II*  
*Vice Chair James Morgenroth*  
*Dennis Wiser*  
*Mary Land*  
*Henry Perez*

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Monday, July 10, 2017

5:00 PM

City Hall, Room 307

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#### Call To Order

**PRESENT:** 4 - Q.A. Shakoor II, James Morgenroth, Dennis Wiser and Mary Land

**EXCUSED:** 1 - Henry Perez

#### Chairman Comments

*Also Present: Dave Brown, Finance Director, Emelia Roso, Human Resources Assistant, Marisa Kasriel, Assistant City Attorney, Scott Letteney, City Attorney.*

#### Approval of Minutes for the June 26, 2017 Meeting.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Morgenroth, seconded by Wiser, that this file be to Approve the Minutes

[664-17](#)

**Subject:** (Direct Referral) Communication from the Finance Director requesting City Council acknowledgment and endorsement of authorization to execute a settlement agreement and payment in Racine County Case numbers 2015CV0745 and 2016CV1122 for partial refunds of 2014 and 2015 real estate property taxes, costs and interest totaling \$84,663; authorization to execute a settlement agreement and payment for 2016 real estate property taxes, costs and interest totaling \$50,124.

**Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on 7/10/2017:** Settlement of Racine County Case numbers 2015CV0745 and 2016CV1122; and settlement of claim of excessive assessment for 2016 real estate property taxes in the cumulative principal amount of \$134,545.66 plus cumulative interest through June 30, 2017 of \$222.96 plus cumulative per diem interest of \$1.00 starting July 1 through payment date for an estimated total of approximately \$134,788.

**Fiscal Note:** There are sufficient funds available for payment of this settlement in account 11202-53420, Misc-Property Taxes Cancelled. Approximately half of the refund will be charged back to the other

taxing jurisdictions. Principal + interest by year is as follows: 2014 \$41,979.77 + \$51.29; 2015 \$42,589.32 + \$42.88; 2016 \$49,976.57 + \$147.79.

*David Brown, Finance Director, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.*

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Morgenroth, seconded by Wisner, that this file be Recommended For Approval**

[644-17](#)

**Subject:** Communication from the Director of City Development requesting to discuss accepting the following property donations from Racine County for transfer to nonprofit organizations Racine Habitat for Humanity, Inc and Great Lakes Community Conservation Corp for rehabilitation: 3518 Kinzie Avenue, 1124 David Street, and 1432 Illinois Street. Transfer will include a written agreement with the city detailing construction period, construction permits, and right of first purchase if property is disposed before construction completion.

**Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on 7/10/2017:** To approve the Director of City Development to accept property donations of 3518 Kinzie Avenue, 1124 David Street and 1432 Illinois Street from Racine County and take proper actions to deed the properties to the non-profit agencies of Racine Habitat for Humanity, Inc. and Great Lakes Community Conservation Corp. with restrictions and contingencies as presented.

**Fiscal Note:** Both nonprofit groups will pay any fees incurred by the City while obtaining and transferring the properties from the County, including all closing costs. The City will expend staff time (salaries) administrating the transfer, developing the contracts, and monitoring the project compliance.

**Attachments:** [644-17 ABM and backup material.pdf](#)

*Amy Connolly, Director of City Development, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.*

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Morgenroth, seconded by Wisner, that this file be Recommended For Approval**

[645-17](#)

**Subject:** Communication from the Director of City Development requesting to discuss additional funding and recommended changes to the City's White Box program.

**Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on 7/10/2017:** To approve the following White Box program policies; To increase \$150,000 in White Box funding from the Intergovernmental Revenue Fund for the 2017 Fiscal Year for a total of \$250,000; combine the line item for façade grants and white box grants into one

funding line item that could be allocated for either facades grant or white Box grant applications on a first-come/first-served basis (thus increasing the total funding for development incentives to \$400,000 for FY 2017); Create a “sunset” on the White Box Program for the end of FY 2019 to incentivize vacant property-owners to take more immediate action to rehabilitate and lease vacant spaces; and allowing a property owner of a building with more than one distinct, vacant retail spaces to obtain more than one “White Box” grant.

**Fiscal Note:** The proposed White Box program policy changes would increase the FY 2017 Funding for the White Box program from \$100,000 to \$250,000. The combination of White Box line items and budgeted façade grant line items (budgeted \$150,000 in FY 2017) to a total of \$400,000 available for either White Box or façade grants. During FY 2017, there has been \$91,545 awarded in White Box incentives and \$50,000 awarded in façade grants. These policy changes would result in a total of \$258,455 available for either White Box or façade grants for the rest of fiscal year 2017.

**Attachments:** [AMB 645-17 and backup.pdf](#)

*Amy Connolly, Director of City Development, appeared before the Committee to speak on the item.*

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Morgenroth, seconded by Wisner, that this file be Recommended For Approval**

## Closed Session

[659-17](#)

**Subject:** (Direct Referral) Communication from the City Attorney requesting to meet with the Finance and Personnel Committee in Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes section 19.85(1)(g), to confer with legal counsel concerning *Cottingham, et al. v. City of Racine, et al.*, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin Case No. 16-CV-1560.

**Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on 7/10/2017:** To approve the settlement of *Cottingham, et al. v. City of Racine, et al.*, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin Case No. 16-CV-1560.

**Fiscal Note:** There are sufficient funds available in account 11202-53500, Misc-Judgements and Claims for the settlement.

**A motion was made by Vice Chair Morgenroth, seconded by Wisner, that this file**

be Recommended For Approval

**Open Session**

**Adjournment**

**There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of this Committee is at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 24, 2017 at City Hall, Room 307.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Ald. Q.A. Shakoor II, Chairman  
Finance & Personnel Committee**