



May 27 2021 11:51 am

**City of Fitchburg
Massachusetts 01420**

CITY COUNCIL

Councilors at Large

Marcus L. DiNatale
Amy L. Green
Thomas C. Hughes
Samantha M. Squailia
Anthony M. Zarrella

President

Anthony M. Zarrella

Vice President

Elizabeth R. Walsh

Ward Councilors

Ward 1 – Bernard J. Schultz, III
Ward 2 – Paul R. Beauchemin
Ward 3 – Andrew J. Couture
Ward 4 – Andrew J. Van Hazinga
Ward 5 – Marisa R. Fleming
Ward 6 – Elizabeth R. Walsh

Finance Committee

A meeting of the Finance Committee was called to order by Chairman DiNatale on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 6:00 PM in the Legislative Building, 700 Main Street, Fitchburg, MA.

Committee Members present: Councilors Marcus DiNatale, Thomas Hughes, Elizabeth Walsh, and Anthony Zarrella. Councilor Paul Beauchemin arrived late.

Committee Members absent: None.

The chairman read an announcement regarding the recording of public meetings, noting that FATV was recording and broadcasting the meeting. No other person stated that they were recording the meeting.

The chairman opened the meeting for public comment. No one had registered to speak.

091-21 ORDER: that there be and hereby is appropriated the sum of SIX THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$6,875.00) same to be charged against AVAILABLE FUNDS and credited CITY COUNCIL EXPENSE, ORDINANCE CODE SUPPLEMENT.

Discussion: City Clerk Mary de Alderete was present. The chairman read a letter from Ms. de Alderete dated May 4, 2021.

Action: Motion to approve made by Councilor Zarrella and second by Councilor Hughes. Motion adopted. (4-0)

092-21 ORDER: that there be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of FORTY THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$40,000.00) same to be charged against RESERVE FOR OTHER MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, CAPITAL EXPENSES and credited to LIBRARY CAPITAL, BUILDING RENOVATION for engineering to design new heating and cooling systems.

Discussion: Chief Librarian Sharon Bernard and Facilities Director Russell Karlstad were present. The chairman read a letter from Ms. Bernard and Mr. Karlstad dated May 8, 2021.

Action: Motion to approve made by Councilor Hughes and second by Councilor Walsh.
Motion adopted. (4-0)

Councilor Beauchemin joined the meeting.

093-21 ORDER: that there be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of SIX HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$625,000.00) same to be charged against RESERVE FOR OTHER MUNICIPAL PURPOSES, CAPITAL EXPENSES and credited to SOUTH STREET SCHOOL ROOF & BOILERS CAPITAL PROJECT.

Discussion: City Treasurer Anne Cervantes and City Auditor Calvin Brooks were present. The chairman read a letter from Ms. Cervantes and Mr. Brooks dated May 11, 2021. Ms. Cervantes stated that the idea behind this order is to save money on future interest costs. Councilors asked how much the savings could be and Ms. Cervantes replied that the cost for temporary borrowing this year for this loan was about \$12,000.

Action: Motion to approve made by Councilor Zarrella and second by Councilor Walsh.
Motion adopted. (5-0)

094-21 LOAN ORDER: appropriate FOUR MILLION DOLLARS (\$4,000,000.00) to pay costs of various Wastewater Infrastructure Projects as outlined in the enclosed Loan Order.

Discussion: Wastewater Deputy Commissioner Jeff Murawski was present. The chairman read a letter from Mr. Murawski dated May 12, 2021. Councilors asked how much more rate payers will have to pay and for how long in order to comply with the consent decree requirements. Mr. Murawski replied that this project is probably the largest one left with an estimated \$21 million construction cost. There are then three more projects to complete before 2030. Although an upgrade to the tertiary treatment system is part of the decree, the city is petitioning the EPA to defer this project, since there will be a greater gain by pursuing these combined sewer separation projects. He estimated that the cost of completing all future projects required by EPA will be in the ballpark of \$100 million.

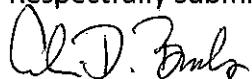
Councilors noted that the federal government are the ones pushing this compliance and who think that the ratepayers can afford it.

Action: Motion to approve made by Councilor Beauchemin and second by Councilor Zarrella.
Motion adopted. (5-0)

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Beauchemin second by Councilor Zarrella.
Motion adopted. (5-0)

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Calvin D. Brooks, Clerk

**City of Fitchburg
Available Funds Summary
Fiscal Year 2021**

Available Funds Certified as of July 1, 2020			3,368,823
Less Approved Appropriations:			
3/2/2021	036-21	Legal - Litigation and Special Counsel	-80,000
03/16/21	034-21	Stabilization Fund	-350,000
03/16/21	035-21	Facilities - Tax Possession Maintenance	-30,000
03/16/21	037-21	Human Resources - Overtime	-10,000
05/04/21	079-21	Health - Food Consultant Expenses	-25,000
05/04/21	080-21	Public Works - Building Renovation - New Roof	-45,000
05/04/21	081-21	Public Works - Stormwater Contracted Services	-400,000
05/04/21	082-21	Public Works - Street Repair - Oak Hill Road Paving	-300,000
Less Proposed Appropriations:			
05/18/21	091-21	Clerk - Ordinance Code Supplement	-6,875
05/18/21	097-21	FY22 Budget - Snow & Ice Reserve	-675,000
05/18/21	097-21	FY22 Budget - Hotel Excise Lost Revenue	-900,000
05/18/21	097-21	FY22 Budget - Host Fees	-200,000
Subtotal - Proposed Appropriations			-1,781,875
Balance Available if Proposed Appropriations are Approved			346,948
Possible Appropriations:			
Snow & Ice			
Stabilization Fund 5% - \$6,720,000 7% - \$9,400,000 Current - \$7,058,570			
OPEB Fund Current - \$1,505,097			
Host Fee / Mitigation			
Community Development - Rail Trail			
Main Street Garage - Phase 1			
Legal - Code Enforcement			
Demolition			
Demolition - Laurel Street School			
Police - Accessibility			
Steam Plant Cleanup			
Marketing City			
Cemetery Software			
Cemetery Vehicles			
Parks - Downtown Summer Groundskeeper			
Crocker Field			
DPW - Oak Hill Road Bridge			
DPW - Vehicles			
DPW - Street Paving			
Senior Center Roof			
Veterans - Cash Benefits			



**CITY OF FITCHBURG
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK**

718 Main Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Mary de Alderete, City Clerk
mdealderete@fitchburgma.gov
978-829-1820

May 4, 2021

The Honorable Stephen L. DiNatale
Mayor
City of Fitchburg
718 Main Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420

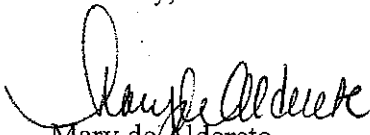
RE: Appropriation – General Code

Dear Mayor DiNatale,

I have received an estimate, as attached, for updating the City Code to include the revised Zoning Amendment.

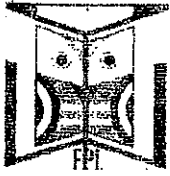
I respectfully request an appropriation in the amount of \$6,875.00 to be advanced to account 011114-545468 (City Council Expense, MGL and City Code Supplements) in order fund this expense.

Sincerely,


Mary de Alderete
City Clerk

enc: General Code Estimate, April 30, 2021

cc: Calvin D. Brooks, Auditor



FITCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY

610 MAIN STREET
WALLACE LIBRARY 978-829-1780
YOUTH LIBRARY 978-829-1780
www.fitchburgpubliclibrary.org

FITCHBURG, MA 01420
FAX: 978-345-9632
fpref@cwmar.org
facebook.org/fitchburgpubliclibrary

May 11, 2021

Mayor Stephen DiNatale
Fitchburg City Hall
718 Main Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Dear Mr. Mayor:

We respectfully request the following appropriations relating to the Fitchburg Public Library MEP needs.

An appropriation of \$40,000 to complete engineering to design new heating, cooling and auxiliary systems to provide suitable HVAC conditions in the building.

An appropriation of \$500,000 to complete the work as defined under the design as previously requested.

The appropriation of \$540,000 should be transferred to account #016108-585859.

As was observed in the site walk on May 4, 2021, the existing conditions merit the new work to ensure a functioning building. All work completed using this funding will be required to remain in place and be utilized on any future renovation or expansion to the library campus.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Sharon Bernard
Russell Karlstad



Anne M. Cervantes
Treasurer

City of Fitchburg

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

718 Main Street, Suite 103
Fitchburg, MA 01420

978-829-1830
FAX 978-829-1971

May 11, 2021

Mayor Stephen L. DiNatale
718 Main Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Dear Mayor DiNatale:

The City Auditor and I are requesting a transfer from Reserve for Municipal Purposes, Capital Expenses in the amount of \$625,000.00 to be credited to the South Street School Capital Project.

This project was to replace roofs and boilers at the school, and was primarily funded by the Massachusetts School Building Authority Accelerated Repair Program with the city share funded from temporarily borrowed funds. It should be complete by fiscal year end and the temporary borrowing is due. Rather than issue bonds for payment over future years, we recommend that the city share be funded from available funds.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anne M. Cervantes
City Treasurer

Calvin D. Brooks
City Auditor

City of
Fitchburg



Department of
Public Works

COMMISSIONER

301 Broad Street
978-829-1910
978-345-9687 FAX

STREETS & PARKS

301 Broad Street
978-829-1900
978-345-9687 FAX

WASTEWATER

301 Broad Street
978-829-1930
978-345-9687 FAX

WATER

1200 Rindge Road
978-345-9616
978-345-9555 FAX

ENGINEERING

301 Broad Street
978-829-1917
978-345-9687 FAX

CEMETERIES

115 Mount Elam Road
978-345-9578
978-345-9686 FAX

May 12, 2021

Mayor Stephen L. DiNatale
City of Fitchburg
718 Main Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Re: Wastewater Consent Decree Remedial Measure Funding
"Main Street Area Combined Sewer Separation Project" -
CSO 010, 032, 045, 083 Separation/Rehabilitation Project
SSES Investigations and Designer Engineering Services

Dear Mayor DiNatale,

I am requesting a loan appropriation of **\$4,000,000** for the mandated environmental project detailed below. The project is required by the 2012 executed Consent Decree (CD) between the City and the United States Department of Justice (DOJ).

We will seek funding through the State Revolving Fund ('SRF'), which provides 2% financing to upgrade or replace wastewater infrastructure, on the project's pre-design "SSES Investigations" services. Designer services are not SRF eligible, and will be bonded separately within the same (\$4M) borrowing authorization appropriation.

The loans will be charged to the Wastewater Enterprise Fund. In order to cover the cost of the borrowing, rates were adjusted (passed by City Council in April 2018, for FYs 2019 - 2023) which will be sufficient to fund the subject borrowing authorization.

The current request for \$4,000,000, in addition to past loan orders, is for the next phase of projects that are mandated by the CD and include: Sewer System Evaluation Survey ('SSES') investigations costs and designer engineering services costs of the **CSO 010, 032, 045, 083 Separation/Rehabilitation Project** (also referred to as the "Main Street Area Combined Sewer Separation Project").

The City has historically required the Wastewater Enterprise and the sewer rate payers to fund the removal of streets runoff stormwater and sources of ground water from the sewer system and the Publicly Owned Treatment Works. This City practice is anticipated to continue into the foreseeable future, and is incorporated into the subject project's designer engineering services budget cost.

This sewer separation project is the first of the remaining sewer separation projects that will fully separate the City's combined sewers into separate sanitary and separate storm drain systems. The anticipated project area (see attached GIS figure, prepared by Fitchburg DPW - Wastewater Division) is primarily area north of western Main Street, including Prospect Street and Mechanic Street arterial streets, as far north as former Burbank Hospital and Bigelow Road/western Blossom Street, and as far east as Mt. Vernon Street.

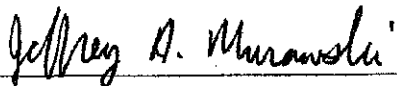
This project will permanently close four (4) very active Combined Sewer Overflow regulators that have historically released high amounts of untreated wastewater and stormwater to the environment during rain events, thereby greatly improving the quality of the North Nashua River and also greatly reducing extraneous infiltration and inflow (non-sewage water) from reaching our Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant, helping the City progress towards final compliance with the Consent Decree.

Also attached to this letter request, is the suggested loan order language to be provided to the City's Bond Counsel.

Please contact me with any questions at (978) 602 - 7030.

Respectfully,

FITCHBURG DPW, WASTEWATER DIVISION



Jeffrey A. Murawski, P.E.
Fitchburg DPW Deputy Commissioner of Wastewater

Attachments

Electronic Cc.: Calvin D. Brooks, City Auditor
Anne M. Cervantes, City Treasurer
Nicolas H. Bosonetto, P.E., Commissioner of Public Works
Patrick D. Hare, Mayor's Chief of Staff