



City of Malden

Malden City Hall
215 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

Meeting Minutes - Final Finance Committee

Tuesday, June 23, 2020

5:30 PM

REMOTE MEETING

Roll Call

Present: 6 - David Camell, Paul Condon, Neal Anderson, Amanda Linehan, Barbara Murphy and Deborah DeMaria

Also Present: Councillors Sica, Crowe, Spadafora, O'Malley and Winslow
Charles Ranaghan-Controller
Ron Hogan-Parking Director

207-20

In accordance with Governor Baker's 3/12/20 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c.30A,ss18, and the Governor's 3/23/20 Revised Guidance on Order by the Governor Prohibiting Assemblage of More than Ten People, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation.

In person attendance by members of the public is prohibited, and all effort will be made to permit public attendance of this meeting, in the manner specified below, via remote access by internet, telephone, and if available via public broadcast of the meeting by Malden Access Cable Television on public access television channels.

Public access will also be provided by posting draft minutes, and/or a transcript, recording, or record of the meeting on the city of Malden website at cityofmalden.org as soon as practicable after the meeting.

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<https://www.cityofmalden.org/DocumentCenter/View/2487/Public-information-on-Public-Meetings-and-Hearings-during-the-Declared-State-of-Emergency-related-to-COVID19PDF>

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Minutes to be Approved

Minutes of June 16, 2020 meeting to be approved.

A motion was made by Councillor Paul Condon, seconded by Councillor Amanda Linehan, that the minutes of June 16, 2020 be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Business

132-20

Order: Annual Appropriation Order for the FY2021 (City Budget).

Sponsors: David Camell

Councillor Camell called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. and announces the meeting is being filmed by Jon Miara and Prisco Tammaro. He explains that the committee will discuss the budget that this year is a unique situation and the budget will be level funded. The following motion is made by Councillor Condon to move the F/Y 2021 Budget as proposed by the Mayor's office seconded by Councillor Murphy. Roll Call: Anderson-yes Condon-yes DeMaria-no Linehan-yes Murphy-Yes Camell-yes 5-yes 1-no Councillor Condon says this budget is the best it can be now it will have changes in September but to make cuts and changes now would not prudent to do right now. We need to see what the state has to offer in September. Councillor Spadafora agrees with Councillor Condon and the Governor is passing his level funded budget till August. He feels that we should pause till September. Councillor Murphy says this budget seems to

hold to a degree a certainty of level service and it shows we can move forward with this level funded budget we should pass this budget as it is and know we will go into this for a second round and have more information and know the actual local aid number.

Councillor DeMaria agrees but disagrees and makes the following motions: Motion to cut the following items:

Senior Center line item of part-time employees cut: \$52,743.00. Fails for lack of a second.

MTEC item Youth Activites there is not position: \$13, 260. Fails for lack of a second.

Police Fuel: \$100,000 20% cut to \$80,000=\$20,000 seconded by Councillor Linehan. Roll Call: Anderson-no Condon-no DeMaria-yes Linehan-yes Murphy-no Camell-no Fails Yes-2 Nay-4.

Bullet proof vests \$50,000 cut to \$25,000=\$25,000. Fails for lack of a second.

Prisoner meals \$5,000 cut to \$2,500=\$2,500. Fails for lack of a second.

Total: \$113,503.00 in cuts

Councillor Winslow is supportive of the fuel cuts and if we can hold off on bullet proof vests and the MTEC position. He is supportive of going ahead with the budget for now as proposed but we should look into areas looking ahead of the Police Department where they are stretched beyond their personnel expertise he feels we have a Police Dept. which is responsive. Councillor Linehan agrees with Councillor Winslow and also some of the issues Councillor DeMaria has brought up. She questions the bullet proof vests item and asks the Controller if we have actuals for the items Councillor DeMaria brought up. Chuck says they will not know the actuals till June 30th: gas for the Police is expected to be around \$86,000 to level fund it was prudent. Bullet Proof vest projected to be \$40,000 they have a shelf life whether they are used or not. Councillor Anderson feels Councillor DeMaria raises good points of cutting some items here and there but we are kind of flying blind but when we get the information from the state we will have better information so we should pass this budget then come back and take a closer look in September. He hopes to work with the Police Department to move things away from them such as calls that have the potential to escalate when there is not need for confrontation. Councillor Crowe agrees to move this budget forward and to Councillor DeMarias points they will be brought up again in September. She asks about the grant for the 4 part-time positions at the Senior Center. Ron says there is an annual grant for the Council on Aging \$118,000/year to support various functions at the Senior Center and should fund the 4 full-time positions and transportation costs at the Senior Center and is all accounted for. You could certainly cut the part-time staff but then you would have to look at the Full-time staff with those cuts. Councillor Condon appreciates Councillor DeMaria finding these cuts but he would not be willing to do this till September when we have the real numbers. Councillor Camell takes up the amendments to the motion made by Councillor Condon separately. Councillor O'Malley appreciates the administrations decision to shift costs to run the Cemetery over to the Cemetery Department. They have a perpetual care fund which we do not have the ability to manage. He feels shifting more of that cost to the cemetery department which would shift the need less of nice to have stuff but more of the need to have things. Councillor Condon explains the cemetery went from 5 to 4 employees and left that vacant all year. Perpetual care fund interest is where we took money to help to pay salaries and they have also taken on other projects which isn't in the scope of their work and he feels the cemetery looks beautiful and has no problem with it. Councillor Camell thanks Mr. Hogan and Mr. Ranaghan for joining tonight.

A motion was made by Councillor Condon, seconded by Councillor Murphy, that the Order be recommended favorably. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yea: 5 - Councillor Camell, Councillor Condon, Councillor Anderson, Councillor Linehan and Councillor Murphy

Nay: 1 - Councillor DeMaria

The committee will continue discussion of the Proposed F/Y 21 Budget.

Other Business

Adjournment

A motion was made by Councillor Amanda Linehan, seconded by Councillor Paul Condon, that the meeting be adjourned at 6:11 P.M. The motion carried unanimously.