

Minutes from the City Council Mayor's Briefing on Tuesday May 2, 2023, at 6:30 pm in the Auditorium are as follows:

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CITY COUNCIL  
CHICOPEE MA

Laflamme, Frank N., President	At-Large Councilor	Present
Roy, Gerard (Jerry) A.	At-Large Councilor	Absent
Tillotson, James K.	At-Large Councilor	Present via Zoom
Zygarowski, Robert J.	At-Large Councilor	Present
McAuliffe, Joel D.	Ward 1 Councilor	Present
Brooks, Shane D.	Ward 2 Councilor	Present via Zoom
Lopez, Delmarina	Ward 3 Councilor	Present via Zoom/in person at 6:45
Balakier, George A.	Ward 4 Councilor	Present
Krampits, Fred T.	Ward 5 Councilor	Present via Zoom
Dobosz, Derek Gregory	Ward 6 Councilor	Present arr. at 6:32
Courchesne, William C.	Ward 7 Councilor	Present
Labrie, Gary R.	Ward 8 Councilor	Present
Pniak-Costello, Mary Elizabeth	Ward 9 Councilor	Present

MO-1 Ordered that the City of Chicopee rescinds the following amounts that have been authorized to be borrowed, but which are no longer needed for the purpose for which they were initially approved:

<u>Unissued Amount</u>	<u>Date of Loan Order Approval</u>	<u>Original Purpose</u>
\$2,000,000.00	June 25, 2018	City Hall Renovations

Further ordered that the \$290,845.26 balance of the \$4,000,000.00 previously borrowed by the city to pay a portion of Phase 1 of the City Hall Renovation Project, which amount is no longer needed to complete that phase of the City Hall Renovation Project, is hereby transferred, in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 20, to pay preliminary expenses of Phase 2 of the City Hall Renovation Project.

--The Mayor explained how the money is being used since it has been borrowed to be used for preliminary of phase 2. Lee Pouliot stated staff has closed all contracts and PO's for phase 1, don't need to borrow any more funds. Credits and deducts came back and that's where the \$290,845 came from. Councilor Labrie stated when he first looked, was confused by the four million dollars. Didn't use all of the allotted money. Two different borrowing times. Lee stated only borrowed as needed. Councilor Courchesne stated looked at the face value. Transparency, perfect. Bond council separate things comfortable going forward now. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated explanation makes sense. Councilor Balakier stated talked to the Treasurer, looked into it himself. Mayor stated thank Treasurer Laflamme, important order. Councilor Zygarowski stated got a call from one of the finance people. After explanation this is the right way to do this. The Mayor stated phase 2 is at 40% design/engineering, need real numbers and how we would potentially fund that.

- MO-2 Mayor's appropriation of Seven thousand eight hundred ninety eight and 70/100 dollars (\$7,898.70) to the following named account: Planning Special Account for City Hall Phase II Renovations from available funds in the Planning Special Account for City Hall Phase 1 Renovations.
- Mayor stated money not encumbered for Phase 1. Lee Pouliot stated free cash the city appropriated. Asking to roll into Phase 2.
- MO-3 Mayor's appropriation of Seventy five thousand dollars (\$75,000.00) to the following named account: Police Salary Account for Signing Bonus from available funds in the Police Salary Account for Patrolmen Step 1.
- Mayor stated share public safety concerns with the chief. Pretty substantial cost and time to train officers. Potential to get up to 5 officers. Chief Major stated the Mayor described well what we're looking to do. Would be street ready. Approximately \$35,000 to have an officer go through training, still potentially saving \$20,000. Councilor Zygarowski stated saw the article, have you had any bites at this yet? Chief said there is a lot of talk on social media. Mayor stated we are well staffed, don't want to burden the officers we have. Complement of 116 would be good, have 98 now. Have 11 in the academy now. Hope all 11 make it through the academy. Councilor Pniak-Costello stated will be a big help as time goes by. Appreciate staff. Chief requested a five year commitment for the bonus. Not a new practice.
- MO-4 Ordered that the City Council accept the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration (DER) Grant in the amount of Ninety thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$90,000.00) to provide additional funding and support Phase 1 construction activities for the Abbey Brook Revitalization Project. Said grant is accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.
- Mayor thanked Lee he already got a 2 million dollar grant, this is an additional one. Lee Pouliot stated DER is very impressed with this project. They reached out. Need to spend by the end of the fiscal year. Councilor Balakier thanked Lee for his hard work on this. Tentative start date? Lee said they are working through contract documents. Waiting for the Army Corp of Engineers.
- MO-5 Mayor's appropriation of Nine thousand three hundred seventy three and 80/100 dollars (\$9,373.80) to the following named account: Building Salary Account for Part Time Deputy Building Commissioner from available funds in the Building Salary Account for Assistant Building Commissioner.
- Mayor stated revamp and modernize the department. Want to make sure buildings are safe. Councilor Laflamme stated had a meeting with Frank, great idea. Legal stuff has to get done. Good to have a 2<sup>nd</sup> in command. Admin is a lot of work, in favor tonight. Councilor Labrie stated he had a question on the salary. Is this someone already on staff? Answer was yes.

MO-6 Mayor's appropriation of Twenty five thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$25,000.00) to the following named account: Fire Special Account for Ambulance Billing from available funds in the Undesignated Fund Balance "Free Cash" account.

--Mayor stated because of the success with the impact ambulance shifts have to pay more to bill now.

MO-7 Ordered that the City Council accept the anonymous donation in the amount of Twenty five and 00/100 dollars (\$25.00) to the Chicopee Fire Department. Said donation is accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Mayor stated generous donation. This is the process to accept it.

MO-8 Ordered that the City Council accept the attached list of donations in the amount of One hundred fifty and 00/100 dollars (\$150.00) to the Chicopee Parks Department. Said donations were in-kind snack and candy donations to be used for the Easter Scavenger Hunt held on April 1, 2023 at Dupont Middle School and they are accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A1/2.

--Mayor stated two donations, Big Y and Fruit Fair. Councilor Balakier stated letters of thanks should be sent.

MO-9 Ordered that the City Council accepts the award of Two (2) combination dynamic speed feedback and school zone speed limit sign assemblies from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to the City of Chicopee Department of Public Works. Said assemblies are accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A1/2.

--Mayor stated we are not going to tolerate speeding in Chicopee, keep traffic at bay. Goal is to have people abide by the law. Doug Ellis stated DOT was offering signs. Hampden Street, they supply everything we just have to install them. Councilor Laflamme asked will it have data? Will the city be able to get the data? Answer is yes. Councilor Labrie stated last year we were getting a new speed limit indicator signs, any info on this? Councilor Pniak-Costello asked is it possible in the future to add at other schools? Doug Ellis stated free signs, they were only offering two.

MO-10 Chapter 7 Revisions

Be it Ordained that Chapter 7 of the Ordinances for the City of Chicopee as amended be and is hereby further amended as follows:

Group1

STRIKE OUT:

President of the City Council	\$13,000.00
City Councilors (12)	12,000.00
Vice Chairman of the School Committee	6,500.00

School Committee Members 6,000.00

AND INSERT IN PLACE THEREOF:

President of the City Council	\$15,000.00 (Effective 1/1/2024)
City Councilors (12)	14,000.00 (Effective 1/1/2024)
Vice Chairman of the School Committee	8,000.00 (Effective 1/1/2024)
School Committee Members	7,500.00 (Effective 1/1/2024)

SAID ORDINANCE TO BE EFFECTIVE 1/1/24

--Mayor stated result of a study, request brought forward, been 14-16 years without a raise.

MO-11 To the City Council

You are hereby notified that I have this day appointed Stanley F. Kozikowski, 55 Gilbert Ave., Chicopee, Massachusetts as a member of the Anna E. Barry Elementary School Building Commission to serve in such office for the term expiring on completion of the project.

New Appointment

--Mayor stated Principal Kozikowski is here, well recognized. Served on the Comp Building Commission as well.

MO-12 Ordered that the City Council accept the Community Development Block Grant award in the amount of Seven thousand five hundred and 00/100 dollars (\$7,500.00) to the Chicopee Council on Aging. Said grant is to be used for the Technology Lending Program and it is accepted in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53A.

--Councilor Laflamme stated grant.

--Mayor thanked the Chamber of Commerce, did the clean sweep last Saturday, helping the clean city initiative. Going to need help of the community. Asked students to pledge to never litter. Keep as much waste out of the landfill. Clean our city, Stop the drop, student at Litwin. New facilities director, lead by example. Contagious, hope neighbors follow suit. Thank Deputy Chief Gawron who retired after 35 years. Mental Health awareness month, flag raising at City Hall on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Today is teacher appreciation day. Paul Winspear gave notice, will be leaving in 2 weeks.

Motion to adjourn made at 7:13 passed by a unanimous roll call vote. Councilor Roy absent.

ATTEST:



Keith W. Rattell, City Clerk