

A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held Monday, August 22, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the aldermanic chamber.

President Lori Wilshire presided; City Clerk Dan Healey recorded.

Prayer was offered by City Clerk Dan Healey; Alderman June M. Caron led in the Pledge to the Flag.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. When each member states their presence, please indicate if participating via Zoom state why you are not meeting in person and whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting which is required under the Right-To-Know Law.

City Clerk Healey called the roll.

The roll call was taken with 11 members of the Board of Aldermen present: Alderman Sullivan, Alderman Klee, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Clemons, Alderwoman Kelly, Alderman Dowd, Alderman Gouveia, Alderman Caron, Alderman Thibeault, Alderwoman Timmons, Alderman Wilshire.

Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Moran, Alderman Jette, and Alderman Comeau were recorded absent.

Mayor James W. Donchess, Corporation Counsel Steven A. Bolton were also in attendance.

President Wilshire to turn the meeting over to Chairman of Budget Review Committee Richard A. Dowd.

Chairman Dowd

Yes tonight we have a public hearing on two pieces of Resolution R-22-055 relative to the supplemental appropriation of \$300,000 of FY2022 unanticipated food service related revenue into fund number 2100 Food Services fund and also R-22-056 relative to the transfer of Coronavirus, State and local fiscal recovery funds established by the American Rescue Plan "ARPA" and FY2022 supplemental appropriations in the amount of \$14,500,000. We will start with R-22-055.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

R-22-055

RELATIVE TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$300,000 OF FY2022 UNANTICIPATED FOOD SERVICES RELATED REVENUE INTO FUND #2100 "FOOD SERVICES FUND"

John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee. John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector. I'm here on behalf of the School District to gain a favorable approval of the movement of \$300,000 from unanticipated revenue in the Food Services Fund to the Food Services Fund as an appropriation to true up the amount spent on food services this year versus the amount budgeted. As you may know, food services had a great year with regard to preparing and distributing food as the free and reduced lunch program became a free lunch program. Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Is there anyone that has any questions about this legislation for Mr. Griffin?

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My only question is the \$300,000 in unanticipated revenue. Are those federal funds?

John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector

Mr. Chairman, if I may. The total amount of federal funds was \$6 million, which was \$4 million more than the amount budgeted. So I would definitely say that it's due to the reimbursements from the federal government to equalize that \$300,000 appropriation. Thank you.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you.

Alderwoman Timmons

Mr. Griffin I just want clarification. It was just the lunch program or was it lunch and breakfast programs? You said lunch.

John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector

I'm sorry. This is the complete food services so it would definitely include any and all food prepared by the District to distribute whether it's in the morning or during lunch. Thank you.

Alderwoman Timmons

Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Any other questions? Okay if not, I'll open it up the testimony in favor of R-22-055.

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR- None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

Chairman Dowd closed the public hearing on Resolution R-22-055 at 7:06 p.m.

Chairman Dowd opened the public hearing on Resolution R-22-056 at 7:06 p.m.

R-22-056

**RELATIVE TO THE TRANSFER OF CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS
ESTABLISHED BY THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT "ARPA" AND FY2022 SUPPLEMENTAL
APPROPRIATIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,500,000"**

John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee. John Griffin, CFO/ Treasurer/Tax Collector. If we look at Resolution R-22-056, this is more or less the financial housekeeping required to get the funds as noted into the areas where it can be spent. For example or as you know, we brought the monies in several years ago. We put them in a grant fund. What this does is this gets these monies into the general fund so they can be transferred into the various capital improvement accounts that you see in the Resolution.

We worked with this company called IParametrics who are experts in this area of ARPA funding. They recommended to us, and we endorsed the recommendation, to use revenue replacement as a way of taking in the funds and spending them on things that we felt were important going forward. What I mean by that is once we go through these mechanics, we will essentially take the \$14.5 million dollar value put that - I selected the Police Departments for lack of a better choice - we basically put those monies into the Police Department budget for a second and then we transferred them to these areas that you see on the Resolution. The reason why we can do that is with the revenue of replacements as authorized by the United States Treasury, we will not have to go through what could be a painstaking process of using the Treasury portal to track and promote these various expenditures. What will happen is probably in the next reporting period, the city will be ready to essentially explain to the Treasury via the portal that we spent the \$14.5 million on police salaries, which are an eligible use because they're general governmental services.

So a little bit a little bit tricky but the objective, as we all know from the US Treasury and the administration is to get these funds out into the public as expeditiously and appropriately as possible. So we feel comfortable with this particular Resolution. It's a Fiscal 22 supplemental appropriation. So it won't affect, it won't impact Fiscal 23 that you've already approved that budget. Thank you.

Chairman Dowd

Any questions for Mr. Griffin?

Alderman Klee

The question that I have Mr. Griffin is relative to putting it in the PD. I know you say just you're kind of putting in there for a second. It was for lack of a better do we do that because they had expenses that the city kind of reimbursed them for so we put into that account and then put it into the other account? Is that why we do that or is it just...?

John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector

Mr. Chairman if I may, that's a great question. My objective was to, you know, make it simple and also we have excellent tracking mechanisms on payroll. So when my objective was to not have several reporting periods with several different departments and divisions. All will be acceptable as long as they were general governmental services. But in this case, I think within three months to a six month period Alderwoman Klee we'll be able to fully report our spend to the US Treasury and wrap this up.

Alderman Klee

Just a comment. I just want to say that I appreciate them doing it as quickly as possible so thank you.

Alderman Clemons

So I'm gonna follow up on that and Mr. Griffin correct me if I'm wrong. The salaries in the in the Police Department, I assume, are more than \$14.5 million and so therefore by doing this and putting this into the Police Department budget, the salaries that we can then essentially move out funding, the equivalent sum of money from that's already been budgeted to the police, out into these things that we already approved. Is that what we're doing here?

John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector

That's a great question Alderman Clemons. The beauty of this ARPA funding is we can go back to March of 2020. So the reason why we selected Fiscal 22 is we've already spent those monies. So really what's going to happen is we're going to put for a split second, we're going to put \$14,500,000 into the available budget of the Police Department and subsequently move into these areas that you'll see on the on the Resolution. So there's no impact on the Fiscal 23 budget for police. There's no impact on Fiscal 22 because we've already concluded the year. So it's more. It's truly it's an accounting exercise that's totally appropriate per the rules of the US Treasury.

Alderman Clemons

Well no, I mean, I guess my question is are we doing that to get around a rule or that that's my question? In other words, are we doing this because some of the things that we would have to spend this money on the reporting requirements are arcane or archaic and this is just an easy...?

John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector

Yeah I would say getting around the rule. I would say this particular approach was developed over several comment periods where cities and towns such as ours were commenting of how onerous it would be if we had to take more of – Alderman Clemons more of a traditional federal grant approach where you have all kinds of rules and regulations on supplanting of salaries, grantors, loans that we were just really handcuffed if we if we went down that road. So it is a workaround that many of our fellow towns and cities are using and totally, totally legal and totally endorsed by the US Treasury.

Alderman Clemons

Yeah, just a quick comment. I appreciate the answer and no I understand what we're doing here. So I will support this, thank you.

Alderman Sullivan

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Griffin you mentioned that this is going to go into Fiscal Year 22 so it doesn't affect Fiscal Year 23. So a point of clarification that when we go into budget season for Fiscal Year 23, my question is how is this going to look on paper? Is this going to look - can you describe what it's going to look like? I mean are we going to look like we're cutting the police budget by a lot because it was there and now it's not going to be replaced. I mean that's a concern I have.

John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector

Mr. Chairman if I may. It's a very good question. So on the budget, the way we report we have an adopted budget by the Board of Aldermen. If we look at our financial statements, that's the left hand side and then we have an available budget where through the year there might be additional supplemental appropriations, etc. What's gonna happen, the first transaction will be the \$14.5 million goes into the police in the available but the next transaction as a set of accounting entries to move the money immediately into the areas that you see on the Resolution. So there's gonna be no visual impact to the police. We've already spent the money so in Fiscal 22 and that's why our choice was Fiscal 22 because it was a clean way to end the year and then appropriate the monies to the various needs as shown in this Resolution.

Chairman Dowd

Yeah we've already started the FY23 budgets and that's what the police are operating on right now know now year FY22.

Alderman Lopez

Yeah, I was just curious why particularly the police? It kind of looks like we're money laundering a little bit here and there is no other account we could have used? Nobody will question the police.

John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector

It was actually a fondness. It's going to have no impact in speaking with Karen Smith and she to the Chief. There'll be no impact because it really won't even see it. It's the way we're going to report to the – the key is to get the money to the areas in the financial records that we can spend it appropriately and efficiently. Then the other piece is for me in the reporting to the portal getting the backup that I'm familiar with - the payroll backup. I'll be able to with one more submittal will be will essentially be done with the reporting.

Alderman Lopez

Just as a follow up if you remember in our next year's budget when we're looking at this, would it be possible to tag this as like COVID related mayhem or some kind of like not our normal business?

John Griffin, CFO/Treasurer/Tax Collector

It's actually a very good point. It won't even be seen as the base budget for the police. All it affects is the available budget and then taking the money away from the available to these different accounts. That's how the transaction is going to work but you won't readily see it. Now footnoting it in our financial statements is probably a very good idea. So I think that's where you might see it and the act for reporting that we'll do for Fiscal 22 because we're doing it in Fiscal 22.

Chairman Dowd

Okay we got more leeway here because Mr. Griffin has to leave and Cheryl Lindner is here to answer questions during budget. But if you've so if you have any questions for Mr. Griffin now's the time to ask them. See none, I will now ask for testimony in favor of R-22-056.

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR - None

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION - None

Chairman Dowd closed the public hearing on Resolution R-22-056 at 7:19 p.m. I will transfer the meeting back to President Wilshire.

Without objection, President Wilshire suspended the rules and allowed the following Communication and Appointments which were received after the agenda was prepared.

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Lori Wilshire, Board of Aldermen President

Re: Board of Aldermen meeting – September 13, 2022 – date change due to State Primary Election

There being no objection, President Wilshire accepted the communication and place it on file.

NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND ELECTIONS

Appointments by the Mayor

Electric Aggregation Committee

Adrian George
18 Shingle Mille Drive
Nashua, NH 03062

G. Frank Teas
57 Northeastern Boulevard
Nashua, NH 03062

There being no objection, President Wilshire accepted the nominations and referred them to the Personnel/Administrative Affairs Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN DOWD THAT THE AUGUST 22, 2022, SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN BE ADJOURNED
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Attest: Dan Healey, City Clerk

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR

AUGUST 22, 2022

Electric Aggregation Committee

Adrian George
18 Shingle Mille Drive
Nashua, NH 03062

G. Frank Teas
57 Northeastern Boulevard
Nashua, NH 03062

I respectfully request that these appointments be confirmed.

Mayor Jim Donchess

Board of Aldermen

City of Nashua
229 Main Street
Nashua, NH 03061-2019
(603) 589-3030



MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Aldermen

FROM: Lori Wilshire, Board of Aldermen President

DATE: August 22, 2022

SUBJ.: Board of Aldermen meeting – September 13, 2022 – date change due to State Primary Election

Due to the State Primary Elections on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, the Board of Aldermen meeting scheduled for the same date will be moved to Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 7:30 p.m.