

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at 7:19 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber and via Zoom. The meeting link information can be found on the agenda.

Alderman Patricia Klee, Vice-Chairman, presided.

Members of the Committee present: Alderman Patricia Klee, Vice Chair
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien
Alderman Elizabeth Lu (via Zoom)
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright

Members not in Attendance: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman-at-Large Brandon Michael Laws

Also in Attendance: Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
John Griffin, CFO/Comptroller
David Fredette, Treasurer/Tax Collector
Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director
Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager
Sarah Marchant, Community Development Director
Nick Miseirvitch, Deputy IT Director

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager
Re: Software Maintenance in the amount not to exceed \$88,340.63 funded from accounts 54407 Software Maintenance (IT Department)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE ANNUAL SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE FOR MUNIS FROM TYLER TECHNOLOGIES, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$88,340.63. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 122 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY; FUND: 54407 SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Good evening. I would ask that this item and the following item Clearsky be addressed by our Deputy Director Nick Miseirvitch.

Chairman Klee

Okay. I did see that Nick was on line. Mr. Miseirvitch would you like to speak to this please? Thank you Director Kleiner.

Nick Miseirvitch, Deputy IT Director

Absolutely Madam Chairman. This is the annual software maintenance and licensing for our financial software that the Tax Department uses to send out the tax notices. It is approximately five percent increase from last year.

Chairman Klee

Thank you. Are there any questions among the members?

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you Madam Chair. I just want to bring up a parliamentary inquiry. As seen when the roll was taken, Alderman Wilshire's name wasn't called and due to the rules of this chamber when we do not have a quorum, an Alderman-at-Large is allowed to come in and to fill in in that capacity. If it's okay with permission of the Chair, she is recognized by the Clerk as a voting member of this body.

Chairman Klee

Thank you Alderman O'Brien. I completely missed it myself after thanking her for coming in and then ignoring her during roll call. Doing good today aren't I? Thank you so much Alderman O'Brien.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you Madam Chairman. You know we didn't make it easy for you beginning the meeting, not showing up. So it's hard to get back on track after that.

Point of order. Just for clarification, it sounds like Alderman O'Brien was citing a proposal that we voted down I thought where any alderman-at-large could sit in. It was my understanding that the President of the Board can always sit in and vote and I assume that's why Alderman Wilshire is here. Am I mistaken that the vote to allow an at-large to vote at any meeting is currently in effect?

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you Alderman Lu for your question but I bring the proposal to parliamentary inquiry forward and in good faith. It is my interpretation without the presence of legal counsel here that it's been a long-standing tradition as being an Alderman-at-Large where that particular position is a city-wide election. That that particular Alderman-at-Large can be asked in situations that were before us this evening where a quorum isn't present in the room that that Alderman-at-Large can come in and sit down and vote on the particular matter.

It is my interpretation also as well the reason that rule exists is because I'm sure Alderman Lu you agree before us this evening are a lot of pressing materials that need to be addressed that really goes to the benefit of the citizens. Like everything else, people do get busy. I completely understand that. There may be a whole host of reasons why a particular alderman cannot make the meeting. So I'm glad we do have this rule where alderman-at-large can come in and backfill in the emergency situation that presented us this evening to vote. I hope that answers your question.

Alderwoman Lu

It absolutely – well it answer the question whether I thought you were in good faith but I certainly did. I was just trying to understand a detail. So I'll just go on to...thank you for that clarification. I do understand that we do have a lot of pressing business so let's get to it.

My question for Mr. Miseirvitch is just would you help me out here. Did we just recently approve another Tyler Tech. contract? I remember you said you'll see me next year because this is annual.

Nick Miseirvitch, Deputy IT Director

No. That was for Kronos.

Alderwoman Lu

Okay. Thank you very much.

Nick Miseirvitch, Deputy IT Director

You're welcome.

Alderwoman Lu

I'm all set.

Chairman Klee

Thank you Alderwoman Lu and thank you Mr. Miseirvitch. Are there any other questions by the Board members? If not, Madam Clerk would you call the roll.

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Wilshire	5
Nay:	0

MOTION CARRIED

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

Re: Software Hosting in the amount not to exceed \$90,000 funded from accounts 54428 Technology Operations (IT Department)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE CONTINUED REMOTE APPLICATION MANAGEMENT SUPPORT OF INFOR LAWSON APPLICATION FROM CLEARSKY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$90,000. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 122 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY; FUND: 54428 TECHNOLOGY OPERATIONS BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman Klee

Mr. Miseirvitch would you like to speak to this?

Nick Miseirvitch, Deputy IT Director

Absolutely Madam Chair. This contract is to replace the previous four-year contract that expired in June of this year. The major difference is this contract is now month to month so we're not dealing with a term any more. So we can continue this and cancel it at any time with a 30 day written notice and they have agreed to honor the price that we've been paying for the past four years of \$7,500 a month.

Chairman Klee

Are there any questions?

I do have one. I do remember reading it. The month to month are we still going to be guaranteed the same as if we had done it on an annual basis? Is the per month the same or has it increased?

Nick Miseirvitch, Deputy IT Director

Yes per month is the same. The monthly cost has not changed.

Chairman Klee

Thank you very much. No other questions, Madam Clerk.

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Wilshire	5
Nay:	0

MOTION CARRIED

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

Re: Security Monitoring in the amount not to exceed \$7,200 funded from accounts 55699 Other Contracted Services (Transportation)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR SECURITY MONITORING FOR THE TRANSIT CENTER, TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, AND TRANSIT GARAGE FROM JOHNSON CONTROLS SECURITY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$7,200 (\$1,440 PER YEAR FOR A FIVE (5) YEAR TERM). FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 186 TRANSPORTATION; FUND: 55699 OTHER CONTRACTED SERVICES BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman Klee

I see that we have Director Marchant. Does this one belong to you?

Sarah Marchant, Community Development Director

Kind of. I will give a brief overview but Nick is definitely the expert here on this one. This is a continuation of our contract for Tyler Technologies for our security monitoring at the 3 transportation properties. We renewed the contract again at a same cost going forward. Nick I'm sure you can shine some light on this one because he was going to speak to it tonight. I just happened to be here.

Nick Miseirvitch, Deputy IT Director

Yes Madam Chair. As Director Marchant stated, this is just a continuation of our monitoring for the three transit locations and the vendor requested we get back under contract and in doing so provided us a discount to sign on to a five-year term so we are going to be saving a little over \$1,000 over the next five years for this services. There is no service in equipment or anything like that. It's really all paperwork. No changes in equipment.

Chairman Klee

Thank you Mr. Miseirvitch. If I may, did I read correctly that this is federally mandated to have this type of security?

Nick Miseirvitch, Deputy IT Director

Yes. I believe Director Marchant can extend on that but I believe it is a federal mandate that the transit locations be monitored for security.

Sarah Marchant, Community Development Director

The FTA funds the vast majority of all of the capital equipment in these locations and as part of their requirements, we are required to have security for all of their sites. It also protects our equipment. It protects our riders and it protects our drivers and staff.

Chairman Klee

Thank you. Are there any other questions? Not seeing any, Madam Clerk would you call the roll please?

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Wilshire 5

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

Re: Hydroelectric Consulting Contract Change Order in the amount not to exceed \$32,260 funded from accounts Hydroelectric Bond Fund (Community Development)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #1 TO EXTEND THE DURATION OF THE CONTRACT WITH NORMANDEAU ASSOCIATES UNTIL THE MINE FALLS LICENSE IS RENEWED, ADD ADDITIONAL SCOPE TO INCLUDE JACKSON MILLS LICENSE EXEMPTION AMENDMENT, AND INCREASE THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY \$32,260 FROM THE ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$361,230 TO \$393,490. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 170 HYDROELECTRIC OPERATIONS; FUND: BOND BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Sarah Marchant, Community Development Director

Thank you very much. So the city has made tremendous progress and under the Waterways Manager Deb Chisholm, we have fully submitted the first step in the perk application process for Mine Falls of which Normandeu was a reliable, and consistent, and wonderful consultant for us. This is the first step of many which you might recall from our bond discussions several years ago in this process. The goal now is to extend the Normandeu contract as part of that initial application. There are some continued monitoring we have to do until we get comments back at which time we'll coming back to you for additional next steps that we do anticipate as part of this process.

In addition with the Jackson Falls turbine, we need to do some water quality monitoring and Normandeu is the best consultant to do that. So we're looking to extend the scope just a little bit an additional \$6,800 for water quality monitoring at Jackson and tie them both together. So that's what's before you.

Chairman Klee

Thank you Director Marchant. Are there any questions? Seeing none, Madam Clerk would you call the roll please. A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Harriott-Gathright,
Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Wilshire 5

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

Re: Jackson Mills Turbine, Generator and Controls Replacement Change Orders in the amount not to exceed \$99,000 funded from accounts 81700 Infrastructure Improvements (Community Development)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #2 AND CHANGE ORDER #3 FOR THE MANUFACTURE, TRANSPORTATION, AND INSTALLATION OF THE TURBINE, GENERATOR, AND CONTROLS FOR THE JACKSON MILLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$99,000. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 170 HYDROELECTRIC OPERATIONS; FUND: 81700 INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Sarah Marchant, Community Development Director

Thank you. This project is related to the turbine replacement at Jackson Mills Dam. We have had some delays on that project and as such we would like to extend the warranty where it is the most inexpensive to do so right now to make sure that we have the same warranty that we initially signed on for and to have to store some parts which are very large in size and so cost a substantial amount of money and have to be stored in such a way that they maintain the warranty. So that is what we're here before you to do. There's a very, very small window for implementation for this project as we have to make sure all the fish pass before we get started and we also need to start early enough so that we are not working in winter weather which adds significant costs. We're really trying to thread the needle here with all the fish agencies and makes sure we can get this done right and as such there have been these additional costs.

Chairman Klee

Thank you Director Marchant. Are there any questions?

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you. I can agree we have to delay it. That's understandable. This can also change. It is fluid no pun intended because of transportation costs. You could come back at a later date because where this project is technically delayed right now, nobody can anticipate the transportation costs in the future and now. So that may be a change order number three with this project.

Sarah Marchant, Community Development Director

That is correct. We will be expecting to come back to you probably in January/February with the updates for those as well as material changes. As we all know, materials have fluctuated significantly and so we did not want – normally we would come forward and say we want everything right now and let's make sure we have all the numbers. Contractors, retailers, providers are not willing to provide pricing that I feel is competitive in any way at this point. They're basing it on the highest it is now and an escalator. So from everything we've talked to and all our consultants, we believe pricing is much likely to be more stable and better by next January/February so we will come back at that time with the rest of this.

Chairman Klee

Thank you Director Marchant. Are there any other questions? I see none. Madam Clerk will you call the roll please.

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Harriott-Gathright,
Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Wilshire 5

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS - None

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES - None

RECORD OF EXPENDITURES

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAS COMPLIED WITH THE CITY CHARTER AND ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO THE RECORD OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD FROM TO AUGUST 13, 2021 TO AUGUST 26, 2021 BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTIONAlderwoman Lu

Thank you. Yes I'm not sure that the person that could answer it was able to make it to the meeting tonight. I had questions about the payment to Corolla regarding a contract we have for 14 Court Street roof replacement. Is there anyone here that can talk to the scope of that and whether it's the whole roof?

Chairman Klee

I don't believe there is anybody here. Treasurer Fredette would not be able to answer that specific thing to the contract.

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Good evening. So Alderwoman Lu had asked this question earlier today of CFO Griffin and I believe we provided a response via e-mail. The contract with Corolla is for the full roof. We are still in the middle of the project so one payment has been made to Corolla but they are just beginning second phase of the project. So we do expect additional costs.

Chairman Klee

Alderman Lu did that answer your question?

Alderman Lu

Well that's what – I had a phone call with CFO Griffin and he suggested that may be the case but when I subsequently looked at the contract, I do know that it was – I noted that it was to be finished I think July 27th. I may have that date wrong but I think it's in July. The terms of the contract were for roughly the amount that we've paid them already. Now CFO Griffin thought maybe the contract was just for part of the roof. The scope that I was able to read after I spoke with CFO Griffin was that it is the whole roof. So Ms. Kleiner do you have any response to that?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

You are correct. It is for the whole roof. It was earlier expected that the project would be completed earlier this summer. As you know, limitations due to COVID and many other factors have pushed the project. They are over there working on the second half of the project now. You can see that. There's a crane moved out there currently. What CFO Griffin noted in his e-mail to you was that there are funds that (inaudible) that will remain after the project is done. There are also other structural needs to Court Street that we have realized and if it is found that we would like to use those funds to meet any of those structural needs, we would bring that forth to the committee and to capital projects to repurpose those funds.

So I think your original question was why is the escrow for more than the contract for this roof. That is because we realized there may be other structural deficiencies within the building that may need to be addressed but if we feel that we need to address those and repurpose the funds, certainly the committee would have the right to vote on those going forward.

Alderman Lu

Well okay.

Chairman Klee

Alderman Lu do you have another question?

Alderman Lu

Sorry. I apologize for speaking on top of you. Yes I do. So what confuses me is the contract is for \$268,000. We're paying them in this Record of Expenditures – I don't have it right here, roughly 240. Now you're telling me that they've only done the first phase and there's a second phase to be done. The fact is is the escrow request is to fund costs associated with replacing the 14 Court Street roof. I guess for tonight I continue to be concerned because are you telling me that this payment that we're approving is for half of the project on the roof?

Chairman Klee

Director Kleiner can you answer that?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Yes certainly. So the first phase of the project is the most expensive and the most intensive. So yes we did approve the payment of that. There is some retainage on the project and in the second half of the project is far less expensive. I can tell you that originally the cost of the project was far more expensive than we realized when we went out for RFP. So we feel that if all in all comes in that the city will realize some savings from what we had originally estimated.

Alderman Lu

Director Kleiner I'm sorry but I'm not understanding. I'm not following what you're saying. Let me try to just ask you the simple question that I'm trying to get to the bottom of. We approved a contract to replace the full roof at 14 Court Street for \$268,000. Correct?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Correct.

Alderman Lu

Okay and this week we are paying through city buildings – darn it - \$234,000. So there's a little bit left to be done. \$30,000 more? I mean are we changing? Is the price for this project has it changed or is it still \$268,000?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Its \$268,000 is the total amount of the contract. We have paid \$223,000.

Alderman Lu

Okay. So in the end though we still expect the total roof to cost \$268,000. They're just running behind in completing the work. Is that what you're saying?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

We are not running behind. The remaining work was expected to be done in September and that is a smaller portion of the expenditure.

Chairman Klee

Alderman Lu does that answer your question?

Alderman Lu

Well I'm looking at the contract and it says "shall perform and complete all work by July 26th". So when you correct me and say that's it's not running behind, please you know I'm just looking at the contract. I don't sit in on the discussions but that's what I'm reading. That's what we read here in Finance is the contract and I simply said it was supposed to be done by the 26th and it's running behind. You still feel that it's not running behind?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

So I know I don't feel that it is running behind. The original contract may have stated that there has been discussions with the city and that was extended. We had some one being the symposium that occurred and we asked the contract for some of the work out. So we expect it to be completed this month and the contractor has performed everything that we felt needed to be performed.

Chairman Klee

Alderman Lu do you have additional questions or does this satisfy you?

Alderman Lu

Well it does satisfy me for tonight. You know if anyone – I would love if Director Kleiner can to share with us what the additional work needs to be done on 14 Court Street that we're going to be voting on next week at our BOA meeting. You know perhaps all of the people at this meeting would like to know ahead of time. I take that back. That's not something we're voting on.

Chairman Klee

I would not think so.

Alderman Lu

No that's okay. It's not something we're voting on because it's a like transfer. I don't know. What's the pleasure of the Board? Would you like to hear about what the \$775,000 is needed for?

Chairman Klee

Any comment from the members of the Board? I see none. Director Kleiner as Alderwoman Lu seems to have some concerns and some questions about those things, would you be able to provide that information that she is asking for?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Madam Chair certainly and we did address it in an e-mail to Alderwoman Lu this afternoon. It's not 775. It's \$700,225 which is the like for like escrow. As I have stated, we expected when this project was originally introduced to the Capital Improvements Committee that this would come in at a much higher cost. It's always in the city's best interest when that doesn't happen. What we have said is that it has been like for like escrow. Number one, we were not sure if when a project like this is done on a building of the age of the Court Street building whether they would find structural deficiencies that needed to be addressed. That was one.

Number two, we are not sure if there are other structural deficiencies other than the roof that will need to be addressed and it was thought that it was better to escrow this money and bring forth any changes and purpose of the monies to the Board in the future than not escrow the money at all. So there's no real legislation brought forth before you because it is a like to like escrow but it was information provided to the Board from CFO Griffin as part of the full package of escrows.

Chairman Klee

Yes. I do remember seeing the line item. Thank you very much Director Kleiner.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you. I would just like to state my opinion that it would be better in information that's provided to us if money is being escrowed for a theoretical repair on a structure that we may find we need that it not be attributed to a roof that we're paying for now. That's all. I don't think that's transparency. Thank you.

Chairman Klee

Director Kleiner did you have any comment?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

No Madam Chair. I think I've addressed the issue.

Chairman Klee

Yes I think so as well. If there are no further questions.

Alderman O'Brien

Yeah I would just like to remind the Board here that as Chairman of the Infrastructure Committee by City Charter that project should and it did come before the Infrastructure Committee was approved. So if you look at the City Charter and its history, I think Alderman Wilshire can agree with me going through and modernizing and looking at the Charter, it does mention lands and buildings but that is now the modern Infrastructure Committee. Even though they may approve the project and everything, it does have to get cleared through a second hurdle of budget and it gets approved within the city and then it comes to Finance to approve the funds for that project. Unfortunately being Chairman of the Infrastructure Committee, it's not on the agenda. I wish I had a heads up. Maybe could have helped get some more information on this but caught me totally off guard. Thank you.

Chairman Klee

Thank you Alderman O'Brien. Are there any other comments? Questions? Alderwoman Lu do you have any other questions?

Alderwoman Lu

No thank you.

Chairman Klee

Thank you so much. Madam Clerk could you call the roll please.

Alderman Lu

I do have another question. I'm sorry. May I just ask it quickly? There was a \$22,000 payment made to Sterling from the FEMA Disaster Fund. Can anyone address that? I just don't know what that was for. Was that for moving the Board of Health back to Mulberry Street?

Chairman Klee

Truthfully Alderman Lu I do not know. Did you contact anybody prior to today?

Alderman Lu

I haven't asked that. I've had quite a discussion with CFO Griffin. I asked him about Sterling but we didn't discuss this. I didn't notice it until later. I had asked him if yeah he didn't know whether Sterling moved the Board of Health back but I happened to notice it was in FEMA disaster and I didn't understand how that would be applicable to that particular fund. I wondered if Ms. Kleiner knew.

Also just for the record want to be clear that CFO Griffin sent me an e-mail but it didn't have any explanations that Director Kleiner – maybe I didn't get the e-mail. I'm in New York but I've gotten other e-mails this afternoon.

So Ms. Kleiner do you happen to know whether that is the move back to Mulberry Street?

Chairman Klee

Director Kleiner would you know what the payment to Sterling was relative for?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Thank you Madam Chair. So I do know that Sterling was contract to move the Public Health Department not only from Mulberry Street to the Landmark but also back after the project was completed at Mulberry Street. Whether that specific payment of \$22,000 I believe Alderman Lu said is specific to that project or not I would rely on CFO Griffin.

Chairman Klee

Okay Alderman Lu did you say that you had spoken to CFO Griffin relative to this?

Alderman Lu

Yeah he didn't know but that's fine. All right.

Chairman Klee

It's probably something that maybe we can find afterwards. I believe that Sterling does move us for other projects and so on so I may not have been for that one but we will try to get clarification for you. Perhaps Director Kleiner would that fall under CFO Griffin? DO you think he could get us the information specific to that perhaps tomorrow or later on in the week or next week?

Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director

Yes Madam Chair and you are correct. They have moved us for multiple projects as you know - some of the City Hall renovations this year so we will check up with CFO Griffin tomorrow for you.

Chairman Klee

Okay and if you could share that with the rest of the full Board I would appreciate that. Thank you.

Alderman Lu

Just something that you said made me wonder. Was Mulberry Street moved our first experience with this vendor?

Chairman Klee

I do not believe so. I believe I've seen Sterling on multiple contracts. Director Kleiner would you even know something such as that? Director Fredette would you know? Director Fredette did kind of indicate that this was not the first time that we had used Sterling so I think we've used them in the past.

Alderman Lu

You mean Mulberry Street was not the first time.

Chairman Klee

Right. Correct. Do you have any further questions Alderman Lu?

Alderman Lu

No thank you.

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Klee, Alderman Lu, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Wilshire	5
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Nay:	0
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MOTION CARRIEDGENERAL DISCUSSION - NonePUBLIC COMMENT - NoneREMARKS BY THE ALDERMENAlderman Lu

I'll just take a couple of minutes. I appreciate you folks – I know we all want to get out of here. I just want to mention or rather respond to some remarks that I heard that perhaps my way of doing the work on the Finance Committee was being micromanaging. I understand some of us feel you know the Record of Expenditures are gone over with a fine tooth comb by our Controller and I do go through them. I learn a lot and I feel that well also the contracts. I try to read the contracts and I know at one point last week it was objected that a schedule of upcoming regularly contracted services be provided quarterly. Just a list and my colleague Alderman O'Brien pointed out we don't know what type of tractor is needed for you know something. I feel that some things were expected.

There's some level of scrutiny that is expected and I want to explain to you why I feel this way. I asked on July 14th I sent this to the Board of Aldermen. I sent this to the Mayor, the CFO, and to Mr. Cummings. I mentioned – I'll just talk about the TIFF. There are RSAs that have to do with the TIFF that says "an annual accounting of incremental increases in assessments from these districts are to be reported" so I asked for that. On the 27th – so I asked for that on the 14th. I didn't hear from anyone at all until the 27th when Director Cummings said I'd be happy to provide an update is there anything specific you'd like and I'll be including that TIFF report and that was great. The 27th he said he'd get me the TIFF report. On August 10th I spoke at the Board of Aldermen meeting and I asked Mayor Donchess again. Mayor Donchess told me that the information may be out there but I should check the minutes, and I should check my records. He said it probably exists. It's in the budget and it's probably in our annual report.

So two days later, CFO Griffin did contact me and said TIFF districts aren't included in the annual financial report. Finally on the 16th, four days later, out of the blue I get this e-mail from Director Cummings and he says "As you know we send out the..." bear with me a moment. I have it right here. Well he said, "As you know, the TIFF reports are done in the summer. In fact, as you recall I sent you one last year which is true. I asked him for one last year and he sent a

rudimentary report. He said, “As you know, here it is and...” oh he started the e-mail with “I hear that you’ve been asking for the TIFF report so I sent it to you. In the future you can get it on such and such on the website”. Now some things it’s our place to make sure that these reports are done. I feel that by some level of scrutiny that’s the only way that we get this information to be provided. It’s information that I wanted. I’m on the Board of Aldermen. Maybe there are citizens out there who want it too. This runaround where I think it’s in the...I had to wait a month.

Chairman Klee

Alderwoman Lu I do not mean to be rude or to interrupt you but I understand what you’re saying. You’re very frustrated that you didn’t get what you wanted and I understand that you spoke to Director Cummings. I do recall you bringing this up at other meetings and so on. When Director Cummings told you that it was on a website, was it in fact there? Were you able to find it there?

Alderwoman Lu

I didn’t look. He also sent it to me. He sent it to me attached to that e-mail.

Chairman Klee

Okay. The reason that I asked this is because if it is there that might be why sometimes you don’t always get it. I understand that we don’t always get what we want when we contact some of them. I do understand your frustration. I think every one of us on the Board at some point have asked a question and probably didn’t get the answer even amongst ourselves. I know that I have not always been very quick to even answer some of my colleagues. The bottom line is that you did get it. I do understand that you do want to get the answers when you need them and when you request them and so on. I am happy that you did get the report that you finally looks like probably a month after that that you asked for the first time. Is there anything more to that and I’m sorry that I interrupted you?

Alderwoman Lu

I just want to point out that my concern is not that I’m not getting the report. I’m trying to convey to you the lack of clarity that is thrown out there. Yeah it’s somewhere out there I think. After a month, after a month when I finally corner someone in the meeting, the Mayor says, “Yeah I think it’s out there. Check your minutes. Check your – you know, check your records and minutes” and then CFO Griffin says, “It’s not reported anywhere”. Then I said to him I said well look here’s RSA whatever it is – 162:11 and I say well in fact you know it’s supposed to be. Then the next thing you know Director Cummings is like oh I heard you were asking for that. Yeah here it is. This is not straight dealing but here let me just – I requested from – I’m asking for my colleague’s help. I do not get responses when...

Chairman Klee

Alderwoman Lu?

Alderwoman Lu

Yes.

Chairman Klee

I’m holding you up for a second. Jeff are we still on air? Okay. The only reason why I say that was because my screen went blank. I apologize Alderwoman Lu.

Alderwoman Lu

I’ll make this brief.

Jeff Poehnert

The answer is yes.

Chairman Klee

Thank you Jeff.

Alderwoman Lu

I'll make this brief. I want to know that I'm not the only one concerned that I get this type of response when I ask Corporation Counsel for some guidance on Mr. Teeboom's assertions that these appropriations, these escrow appropriations may not be legal. This is what I get from...

Chairman Klee

Alderwoman Lu, you just jumped from the TIFF, to Director Cummings, to Attorney Bolton.

Alderwoman Lu

I'm finished with the TIFF. I said what I needed to say and then I said I just have one more thing. I finished what I wanted to say. My point about the TIFF was that it's not that I'm not getting the information.

Chairman Klee

Understandable.

Alderwoman Lu

Yeah, okay I think I made that clear.

Chairman Klee

Okay yes you did.

Alderwoman Lu

Now just another thing I want to bring up is this is what I'm told from our Corporation Counsel.

Alderman Wilshire

This is not a city employee bashing discussion. I would appreciate it if you would stop.

Alderwoman Lu

I will not, I will not voice my concerns about this administration and the way the Board is refusing to respond to me. This is what I get from Corporation Counsel.

Chairman Klee

Alderwoman Lu, I am going...

Alderwoman Lu

If, if, I were – yes, yes...

Chairman Klee

Alderwoman Lu I'm going to ask...

Alderwoman Lu

Yes.

Chairman Klee

Alderwoman Lu I'm going to ask that you do as the President Wilshire had asked and to stop. I gave you a lot of leeway. You said you only had a couple of minutes. I gave you a lot of leeway when you went because you were talking about trying to get that particular piece of information. Now I see that you're going towards another one and I have to agree with

President Wilshire said. It does feel like you are attacking one section of employees from another and I'm going to ask you to stop.

Alderwoman Lu

May I respond to that?

Chairman Klee

No. I'm sorry but no. President Wilshire did you have a question?

Alderman Wilshire

I stated my case here. This is not the opportunity to bash city staff who work hard and give the information. It's not okay. This is not the...

Alderwoman Lu

I am not bashing. I am not bashing.

Chairman Klee

Alderwoman Lu, please. You are. Thank you.

Alderman Wilshire

Thank you.

Alderwoman Lu

I won't (inaudible) for him. I will not.

Chairman Klee

Is there any other comment? Alderwoman Lu if you do start to attack another employee, I am going to ask you to stop. Please. Go ahead.

Alderwoman Lu

If we don't listen and engage with each other when we amongst ourselves are having problems and concerns to just not respond and not listen is really not doing our jobs. Now I'm happy to send – I don't know how – you know if I am unable to get legal guidance on a vote I made, what would you like me to do? A vote that I need to make rather.

Chairman Klee

Alderwoman Lu that is something that you need to work out with Corporate Counsel. I can't help you on that. I can't make that decision for you. I don't have any powers. As you know, we have no powers over any department. Our job is not to – and I hate to use the word because you said it at the very beginning but our job is not to micromanage the department. Our job is specifically to create the budget, to approve spending, and you were right to look at the contracts. You are right to ask the questions that you asked. I appreciate when you do that. I do appreciate when you ask those questions. Now you're saying that you're looking for legal guidance and you're on a public forum right here and you're asking me specifically how you get what you want. I can't help you with that. I suggest you make an appointment with the attorney. I suggest that you do something like that. That's what I would do. If I've called and I don't get a response. If I've e-mailed and don't get a response, I ask for an appointment and I go and I speak with them. That's what I do with all of the departments.

Alderwoman Lu

It's my opinion that we as a Board don't work together enough. We're supposed to act as one piece.

Chairman Klee

Alderwoman Lu, I'm going to stop you right there again. I feel like you're now attacking the Board and the truth is we were not elected to work together. We were elected to represent the group of people that we are elected by. So for instance I work for Ward 3. You work for Ward 7. President Wilshire and Vice-President O'Brien at-large, they have to answer to the entire city. Alderwoman Harriott-Gathright has to answer to Ward 9. I think we do work very well together. I'm sorry that you feel that way and if your next question has to follow up on attacking the Board members now, I am going to say no. So I will give you a couple of seconds but I will stop you. So continue.

Alderwoman Lu

I was only citing a Mason's I don't know if it's a rule but I was citing Mason's. So I feel that if any of this Board is not getting access to what their Ward representation has a right to that every member of this Board should put some support behind them and at least list – at least...

Chairman Klee

Again Alderwoman Lu that is your opinion. You know the bottom line here is we do not all agree. Tomorrow there is going to be a work study that I have a completely different viewpoint than perhaps President Wilshire and so on. There is going to come a point when that happens to every single one of us. That doesn't mean either one of us is right and it doesn't mean either one of us is wrong. We do what we do best and we also do our own legwork. We get the information that we have to when we have to do that. I am sorry that you don't feel supported but, again, my job is not here to support you in that respect that you don't feel like this department is contacting you. I was not elected to hold anybody's hand nor was anybody elected to hold mine. We do work independent and I think we do work very well together when we work well together. Any further thing because I think we probably exhausted this conversation. I can see the frustration on your face and the hour is getting late and I think we've spent as much time talking about this as we did on the meeting.

Alderwoman Lu

I'm fine.

Chairman Klee

Okay thank you. Are there any other comments? That being said.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION - None

ADJOURNMENT**MOTION BY ALDERMAN O'BRIEN TO ADJOURN BY ROLL CALL**

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Klee, Alderwoman Lu, Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Wilshire	5
Nay:	0

MOTION CARRIED

The Finance Committee meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
Committee Clerk