



City of Fitchburg Massachusetts 01420

CITY COUNCIL

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Marcus L. DiNatale
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Anthony M. Zarrella

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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, January 14, 2020 at 6:00 PM in the Memorial Middle School Library, 615 Rollstone Street, Fitchburg, MA.

Committee Members present: Councilors Paul Beauchemin, Marcus DiNatale, Michael Kushmerek, Elizabeth Walsh, and Anthony Zarrella.

Committee Members absent: None

The chairman read an announcement regarding the recording of public meetings, noting that FATV was recording and broadcasting the meeting. Sam Squailia, 225 Scott Road, Fitchburg, stated that she was recording the meeting.

The chairman opened the meeting for public comment. No one spoke.

003-20 ORDER: that the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the MEMA Emergency Management Performance grant in the approximate amount of \$15,500.00 (FIFTEEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to purchase a fire extinguisher demonstration prop, equipment for heavy vehicle extraction, and hands free lighting for the Dive Team.

Discussion: Fire Chief Kevin Roy was present. The chairman read a letter from Chief Roy dated December 26, 2019. The chief wished Councilors a happy new year and stated that this grant is another Emergency Management grant and is a little more than last year. The department has been using a self-made prop, which is old and becoming a little unsafe. This grant will allow the

department to get a new one. The other equipment is for two regional groups—diving equipment and equipment for heavy vehicles.

Action: Motion to approve made by Councilor Kushmerek second by Councilor Zarrella.

Approved: 5-0.

004-20 ORDER: that there be and hereby is transferred the sum of THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$300,000.00) same to be charged against RESERVE FOR SNOW & ICE REMOVAL and credited to the following DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SNOW & ICE accounts:

PERSONAL SERVICES, OVERTIME	\$ 60,000.00
EQUIPMENT RENTAL	\$ 80,000.00
PLOWS & BLADES	\$ 40,000.00
SALT	\$120,000.00.

Discussion: Public Works Commissioner Nicolas Bosonetto was present. The chairman read a letter from Mr. Bosonetto dated January 2, 2020. Mr. Bosonetto handed out a spreadsheet showing snow and ice expenses for the fiscal year. He is looking for additional funds to continue the process. The department has been using contractors quite a bit.

Councilors asked about the pre-treating of roads. Mr. Bosonetto indicated that the department is using salt only on about half of city roads, making for easier cleanup in the spring. Pre-treating the roads helps get down to bare asphalt more quickly, because it keeps the snow from adhering to the asphalt, making it harder to remove.

Councilors noted that this transfer comes from budgeted snow and ice reserves and that between the \$500,000 appropriation and the \$600,000 reserve, the city has in the budget an amount equal to an average winter.

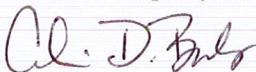
Councilors asked about sidewalk snow removal. Mr. Bosonetto stated that the department's first priority is to open the streets, then tackle the sidewalks. Sidewalks are cleared first on main roadways and school routes, then in commercial areas. The department has two sidewalk plows and have asked the mayor for a third. At this time the limitation on doing more is equipment, not personnel.

Councilors noted that residents are paying attention to the issue of sidewalks because of student safety. They wondered why the schools could not take care of the sidewalks around their buildings. Mr. Bosonetto said that the DPW is responsible for the sidewalks.

Councilors also were concerned that the city is maintaining the downtown sidewalks, but residents have to keep their sidewalks clear. Since it is not possible for the city to do all sidewalks, it is necessary to partner with the residents to get the work done.

Motion to adjourn by Councilor Kushmerek, second by Councilor Zarrella. Approved 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 PM.



Respectfully submitted,
Calvin D. Brooks, Clerk



City of Fitchburg, Massachusetts
FIRE DEPARTMENT

33 North Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Kevin D. Roy
Chief of Fire Department

978-345-9666
FAX: 978-345-9589

December 26, 2019

To: Mayor Stephen L. DiNatale
From: Kevin D. Roy
Re: Emergency Management: Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG)

Dear Mayor DiNatale:

I am requesting the City accept a grant from Massachusetts Emergency Management in the amount of \$15, 500.00.

This grant will allow us to purchase a fire extinguisher demonstration prop, equipment for heavy vehicle extrication and hands free lighting for the Dive Team. This equipment will increase our ability to provide training services to residents and businesses of Fitchburg and will allow our Tech Rescue and Dive Teams to integrate their rescue training into action should an event arise where there response is needed.

If you have any questions regarding this grant, please contact me.

Respectfully,

Kevin D. Roy
Chief of Department

cc: Calvin Brooks, City Auditor
Jacquelyn Cronin, Deputy City Auditor

KDR/ma



COMMISSIONER

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

STREETS & PARKS

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

WASTEWATER

166 Boulder Drive, Suite 108
978-345-9622
978-345-9623 FAX

SEWER COLLECTION

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

WATER

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

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

CEMETERIES

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

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 2, 2020
To: Mayor Stephen L. DiNatale
Subject: Snow & Ice Accounts

The Department of Public Works (DPW) respectfully request that \$300,000 be transferred from available funds to the DPW snow and ice budget. This year's snow season begun with a storm that dumped over two feet of snow and has continued with a total of seven snow and ice storms. As of December 20, 2019 we have already received over 50% of our average annual snow fall, and accordingly have expended \$393,992 (or 40% of our yearly average) from the allocated snow & ice budget of \$500,000. The additional \$300,000 in requested funding should be allocated to the following snow and ice accounts:

- DPW Overtime (Account 01410781-511104) \$60,000
- DPW Expenses
 - Equipment Rental (01410784-545475) \$80,000
 - Plows and Blades (01410784- 545476) \$40,000
 - Salt (01410784-545477) \$120,000

This request for \$300,000 will increase the total snow and ice budget for FY2020 from the original budget of \$500,000 to \$800,000. In an average winter, our final snow and ice budget is about \$1,000,000, so it would not be surprising if another appropriation request is required later this winter.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Nicolás H. Bosonetto.

Nicolás H. Bosonetto, PE
Commissioner of Public Works/City Engineer

cc: Calvin Brooks, City Auditor
Mary de Alderete, City Clerk
City Council

