



City of Fitchburg Massachusetts 01420

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Finance Committee

A meeting of the Finance Committee was called to order by Chairman DiNatale on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 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 Councilor Anthony Zarrella.

Committee Members absent: Councilor Michael Kushmerek

Others present: Councilor Marisa Fleming, Councilor Samantha Squailia, City Auditor Calvin Brooks, Interim School Superintendent Robert Jokela, School Committee Member Aiden Horgan, Mayor's Chief of Staff A. J. Tourigny, and City Clerk Anna Farrell.

023-19 ORDER: that the City Council authorizes the Superintendent to submit to the MA School Building Authority the Statement of Interest form dated 2/12/19 for the South Street Elementary School located at 376 South Street, Fitchburg, MA which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the MA School Building Authority in the future:

South Street West Building Roof
South Street Building Boilers Priority #5.

024-19 ORDER: that the City Council authorizes the Superintendent to submit to the MA School Building Authority the Statement of Interest form dated 2/12/19 for the Goodrich Academy located at 111 Goodrich Street, Fitchburg, MA which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the MA School Building Authority in the future:

Goodrich Academy Roof Priority #5

025-19 ORDER: that the City Council authorizes the Superintendent to submit to the MA School Building Authority the Statement of Interest form dated 2/12/19 for the Fitchburg High School located at 140 Arn-How Farm Road, Fitchburg, MA which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the MA School Building Authority in the future:
Fitchburg High School Roof Priority #5

Discussion: The chairman announced that he was taking up Orders #023-19, #024-19, and #025-19. He then read a summary of the three orders. Interim School Superintendent Robert Jokela stated that now is the time of year to apply to Massachusetts School Building Authority for their Accelerated Repair Program. The South Street School West building roof is 79 years old, the South Street School South building boiler is 58 years old, the Goodrich Academy roof is 33 years old, and the Fitchburg High School roof is 20 years old. He is unsure of total costs at this time, but this Statement of Interest is only the first step in the process and there is no guarantee of success. The reimbursement rate for these projects from MSBA is 80%.

Councilors questioned why the FHS roof is needing replacement so soon and were told it may be due to a poor installation of the roof. Councilors are hopeful that the projects under consideration will be done right and well.

Action: Orders #023-19, #024-19, and #025-19 be adopted (5-0)

028-19 PETITION: to establish an Ordinance in the appropriate section of the City Code for wages of City of Fitchburg Pollworkers, according to the attached table, to be in compliance with minimum wage laws.

Discussion: The chairman read the petition. City Clerk Anna Farrell said this petition is the first step to codify poll workers wages. They have not been included in the ordinance in the past. Also, the increases in wage rates over the next few years will follow increases in the minimum wage rate.

Councilors asked if the minimum wage rate allows the city to get enough help for the elections. Ms. Farrell answered that yes, she has been able to get enough help at this rate, but that she does have to ask.

Action: Be adopted (5-0)

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Calvin D. Brooks, Clerk