



RECEIVED

By City Clerk at 11:57 am, Sep 26, 2024

City of Amesbury
Office of the City Clerk
62 Friend St.
Amesbury, MA 01913

City Council Budget & Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday April 16, 2024 at 6:30 PM

Councilor Jessica Redfern called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

Roll was called, and present were Councilors Claudel Frederique and Jessica Redfern

Absent was Councilor Steven Stanganelli

Also present: Chief of Staff Ann Marie Casey, Fire Chief James Nolan, Deputy Fire Chief Rob Serino, Police Chief Craig Bailey, Council on Aging Director Doreen Arnfield, Director of Public Works Joe Buckley, Assistant City Clerk Justin Kaiser

Minutes for Approval: March 19, 2024

Councilor Frederique made a motion to accept the minutes from March 19, 2024, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Redfern and passed unanimously (2-0).

Communications & Updates

- No communications and updates were offered.

Public Comment:

- No public comment was offered.

Topics for Discussion:

2024-052 An Order to appropriate \$30,000 from Water Retained Earnings to Water Other Expenses

- Read into record by Councilor Redfern.
- Department of Public Works Director Joe Buckley was recognized and gave an overview of this proposal and stated the need for it.

Councilor Frederique made a motion to advance the Order to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Redfern and passed unanimously (2-0).

2024-053 An Order to authorize the mayor to accept and expend a grant from the Newburyport Society for the Relief of Aged Women in the amount of \$19,760.00

- Read into record by Councilor Redfern.

- Council on Aging Director Doreen Arnfield was recognized and gave an overview of this order and stated that this would go towards a part-time receptionist to assist with seniors in the area. It is further stated that this is a donation.

Councilor Frederique made a motion to advance the Order to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Redfern and passed unanimously (2-0).

2024-054 An Order to authorize the mayor to accept and expend a grant in the amount of \$19,000 from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security and the Department of Fire Services (DFS) FY2024 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Program

- Read into record by Councilor Redfern.
- Deputy Fire Chief Cirino was recognized stated that this is a state grant and went through what the funds would go toward. It is further stated that this is not a matched grant.
- Councilor Frederique asked if these funds were a reimbursement and Deputy Chief Cirino answered yes. Chief Cirino stated that the typical turnaround time for these reimbursements is three to six days.

Councilor Frederique made a motion to advance the Order to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Redfern and passed unanimously (2-0).

2024-055 An order to increase the monthly stipend of the Retirement Board members to \$375 and to establish a \$250.00 stipend for the City Treasurer

- Police Chief Craig Bailey was recognized and gave background for this proposal. He stated support for this increase and to establish a stipend for the City Treasurer for the extra work that they offer to the Retirement Board.
- Councilor Redfern asked how this stipend would work under the charter provision that prohibits city board and commission members from receiving compensation. Chief Bailey answered that there is a provision that allows for the exception that has been in use since the adoption of the charter.
- Chief Bailey stated the impact on the overall budget of the Retirement account and that it totaled approximately .0175% of the account.

Councilor Frederique made a motion to advance the Order to the Ordinance and Administration subcommittee with a positive recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Redfern and passed unanimously (2-0).

2024-056 An Order to transfer \$50,000 from Police Salaries & Wages to Police Other Expenses

- Police Chief Craig Bailey was recognized and gave an overview of this proposal. He stated that this would be used to cover unforeseen costs such as vehicle repairs.
- Councilor Redfern asked why there was an excess in the department's salary allocation and Chief Bailey answered that it was due to not having a full group of officers.

Councilor Frederique made a motion to advance the Order to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Redfern and passed unanimously (2-0).

Councilor Redfern made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilor Frederique and passed unanimously (2-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Justin Kaiser

May 15, 2024