

**BURLINGTON BOARD OF FINANCE
BUSHOR CONF. ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, CITY HALL *OR*
REMOTE MEETING WITH CALL-IN NUMBER
BURLINGTON, VERMONT
MINUTES OF MEETING
DRAFT
July 24, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Karen Paul
Ali Dieng
Mark Barlow
Miro Weinberger

OTHERS PRESENT:

Katherine Schad
Jordan Redell
Jared Pellerin
Cindi Wight
Kim Bleakley
John Murad
Sarah E Carpenter

1.0 CALL TO ORDER and AGENDA

1.1 Motion to amend/adopt the agenda

Chief Administrative Officer Schad called the Board of Finance meeting to order at 5:04 PM.

MOTION by Councilor Dieng, SECOND by Councilor Barlow, to adopt the agenda.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries (City Council President Paul, Mayor Weinberger absent for vote).

2.0 PUBLIC FORUM

2.1 Verbal Comments

None.

3.0 FOR APPROVAL AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL

3.1 Replacement Hot Water System and Boiler at Paquette Arena in Leddy Park – BPRW

Facilities Manager Bleakley spoke about the City's work with an energy performance vendor on analysis of many municipal properties and their energy efficiency, to strive toward net zero energy. She said that one project that has resulted from that is replacement of the hot water system and boiler at Leddy Park with an 96% efficient natural gas system.

Councilor Barlow asked about the funding for this project and asked whether the costs were anticipated during the budget process. Facilities Manager Bleakley replied that the costs were not anticipated during the budgeting season and will be using a combination of Facilities Contingency and existing capital bond funding from FY23 and FY24. She noted that this was not an anticipated cost, and that the boiler has already failed, and will need to be replaced prior to next winter's season. Director Wight acknowledged a backlog in deferred maintenance for a number of City buildings and systems.

Councilor Dieng asked about the the carryforward funding from FY23 and Facilities Manager Bleakley replied that they had already anticipated some level of replacement needed for the hot water system and had set aside funding for that previously. Councilor Dieng asked how a natural gas system that is 100% energy efficient could be achieved. Facilities Manager Bleakley replied that a 100% efficient natural gas system is possible, and would entail working with VGS to find renewable energy credits to make up that 4%.

MOTION by Councilor Dieng, SECOND by Councilor City Council President Paul, to approve and authorize the execution of a contract with Energy Efficiency Investments, Inc.,, for a price not to exceed \$691,561.00 to replace the domestic hot water system and boiler, and authorize Cindi Wight, Director of Parks, Recreation & Waterfront to execute the contract and any related documents needed to carry out the project, subject to review by the City Attorney's Office.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

3.2 Burlington CARES Overview, Position Requests, and Structure – Police

Chief Murad provided an overview of the CARES team. He noted several pressure points in terms of deadlines, one of which is federal funding from the Vermont Department of Mental Health (DMH) that is expiring soon if it is not spent. He noted that an EMT-based clinical model will not work for this program, given that they are trying to divert individuals from the emergency room and that EMTs are typically trained to bring people to the E/D instead of other areas in the community. As a result, the BPD has been working with registered nurses and home health care nurses, and that UVMMC has agreed to cost-share for that. He said that this request is for a supervising clinician and two clinicians.

Councilor Dieng asked how much the entire CARES team will cost. Chief Murad said that it would cost around \$650,000 per year for five positions and fringe benefits. He acknowledged that startup costs in the first year will be higher than in subsequent years. He also noted that interior capital work will also need to be conducted at the police station to reconfigure work stations. He noted that the DMH/federal grant will cover around half of the costs in year one and year two.

City Council President Paul spoke about how this program came forward through the efforts of two parents in the community. She also noted that her preference would have been for this program to be executed as a vendor contract with a community provider, rather than taken in-house by the BPD, but recognized that it has been structured this way for the sake of expediency and getting it off the ground. She said that she is comfortable with the program as it stands, given the amount of review the Police Commission has been able to have with it.

MOTION by City Council President Paul, SECOND by Councilor Barlow, to recommend the creation of one (1) Burlington CARES Clinical Supervisor, a Regular, Exempt, AFCSME, Grade 20 position, and two (2) Burlington CARES Clinicians, a Regular, Exempt, AFCSME, Grade 19 position.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

4.0 ADJOURNMENT

4.1 Motion to Adjourn

With no further business and without objection the meeting was adjourned at 5:34 PM.

RScty: AACoonrad