



Board of Finance Meeting, Monday, August 24, 2020, 5:00 pm.
Please click the link below to join the webinar:
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BURLINGTON BOARD OF FINANCE

CITY HALL

BURLINGTON, VERMONT

MINUTES OF MEETING

August 24, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Weinberger

Council President Tracy

Councilor Paul

Councilor Pine

Councilor Dieng

OTHERS PRESENT: Katherine Schad

Rich Goodwin

Lee Perry

Olivia LaVecchia

Eileen Blackwood

Jordan Redell

Chapin Spencer

Sophie Sauve

Darren Springer

Chris Burns

Andrea McNeil

Zoraya Hightower

Tyeastia Green

Cindi Wight



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1.0 CALL TO ORDER and AGENDA

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

1.
 - i. Motion to amend/adopt agenda

MOTION by Councilor Paul, SECOND by Councilor Pine, to adopt the agenda.

VOTING: unanimous (Mayor Weinberger not present for vote); motion carries

2.0 PUBLIC FORUM (VERBAL)

2.01 Verbal Comments

None at this time.

3.0 FOR APPROVAL AND RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL

3.01 FY21 Department Budget – REIB

Mayor Weinberger noted that the Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging department is new and that the racial equity resolution that was passed in June directed funds to be appropriated to the department from a racial equity fund, which is the purpose of this agenda item. He said that around 40% of the funds will be allocated to the department at this time.

MOTION by Councilor Pine, SECOND by Councilor Paul, to recommend that the City Council approve the FY21 budget for the Office of Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging, including authorization for the budget amendments required to transfer funds, as presented.

DISCUSSION:

- Councilor Pine asked about the line item in the budget for consulting services, which is large. Mayor Weinberger replied that foundational work needs to be conducted because this is a new department, noting projects including work on a strategic plan, a reparations task force, a feasibility study for a cultural empowerment center, and plans to engage with the Racial Justice Alliance.
- Councilor Dieng noted that research and policy analysts were being added to the department and asked about the process for bringing in consultants. Director Green replied that strategic planning and feasibility



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studies are not in the scope of the research and policy analyst positions and that three of the four plan studies will go through the RFP process.

- Councilor Dieng suggested that the Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Department align its work and collaborate more intensely with the Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee. Director Green and Mayor Weinberger concurred and said that the REIB Department will engage closely with the REIB Committee.
- Councilor Hightower asked about the process to allocate the remaining funds to the REIB department. Mayor Weinberger replied that unallocated funds will require further approval from the City Council.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

3.02 Authorization to Amend Contract for the CY20 Street Reconstruction Contract and Project Budget - DPW

MOTION by Councilor Paul, SECOND by City Council President Tracy, 1. To approve and recommend that the City Council authorize the Director of Public Works to execute an amendment to the CY20 Street Reconstruction Contract with S.D. Ireland Brothers Corp to increase the maximum limiting amount by \$110,000, raising the total maximum limit amount to \$1,800,297.50, for additional stormwater repairs and traffic calming work, and to execute any necessary related change orders and amendments to the contract term, subject to the prior review and approval of the City Attorney. 2. To approve and recommend that the City Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, or their designee, to affect all necessary budget amendments and transfers of funds to and from the above-referenced funding sources as needed to pay the above-referenced project expenses, including the carrying forward of \$437,079.11 in Street Capital FY20 funds into Street Capital FY21.

VOTING: unanimous (Mayor Weinberger not present for vote); motion carries.

3.03 Proposed Solid Waste Generation Tax Ordinance Change - DPW

MOTION TO AMEND by Councilor Pine, SECOND by City Council President Tracy, to add "suspend the rules and place in all stages of passage" to the original motion.

VOTING: unanimous (Mayor Weinberger not present for vote); motion carries.

MOTION by Councilor Pine, SECOND by City Council President Tracy, to approve and recommend that the City Council suspend the rules and place in all stages of passage the amendment language to Chapter 14, § 14(2)(b) reflect the current solid waste generation tax, consistent with the attached language revisions.



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VOTING: unanimous (Mayor Weinberger not present for vote); motion carries.

3.04 Phase 3b North Bike Path Rehabilitation Construction Contract - BPRW

MOTION by Councilor Pine, SECOND by Councilor Paul, to approve and recommend that City Council approve and authorize the execution of a contract with Engineers Construction, Inc., for a price not to exceed \$299,396 and with John Turner Consulting for a price not to exceed \$51,788 for the Burlington Bike Path Rehabilitation Phase 3b North Construction Project, plus a project contingency of \$52,678, and to authorize Cindi Wight, Director of Parks and Recreation, to execute the contract and any related documents needed to carry out the project, subject to the review of the City Attorney's Office.

DISCUSSION:

- City Council President Tracy asked whether this would be the final contract for this project. Parks Planner Sauve replied that there are additional sections in Oakledge Park and the overpass at North Beach that need work, but that these sections will not be worked on this year.
- Councilor Paul asked for a brief overview of the bid selection process, given that the apparently successful bidder for the project was the more costly bidder. Parks Planner Sauve outlined the bid selection criteria used to select the bidder, noting that while the bidder was more expensive, they had proposed more hours working on the site and had more experience.
- Councilor Pine asked when the Blodgett Beach section of the path would be reopened and Parks Planner Sauve replied that it will definitely be open by next spring.

VOTING: unanimous (Mayor Weinberger not present for vote); motion carries.

3.05 Acceptance of Economic Development Administration Grant Award - BED

MOTION by Councilor Pine, SECOND by Councilor Paul, to recommend that the City Council accept the grant of \$550,000 from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) for the Burlington Electric Department, as part of the CARES Act response to the COVID-19 pandemic and authorize the General Manager of BED to execute any documents necessary for that acceptance, subject to final review by the City Attorney's Office.

DISCUSSION:

- City Council President Tracy asked about the application process for funding. General Manager Springer replied that customers can apply on a rolling basis, and will include HVAC and heat pumps in addition to energy efficiency. Customers can be referred from CEDO or can apply on their own and there is an energy assessment process to ensure that they qualify for the funding.
- Councilor Pine asked whether the loans need to be cash flow positive. Director Burns replied that this isn't necessarily the case.



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- Councilor Dieng asked how BED is ensuring that Burlington customers are aware of this funding opportunity. General Manager Springer noted that this funding is available for commercial customers, not residential customers.
- Councilor Paul asked about grant requirements for interest rates on new loans. General Manager Springer noted that the interest rate would be 0% for first two years of loan program, and BED Finance Director McNeil added that the interest requirement would be 75% of the Wall Street Journal prime rate.

VOTING: unanimous (Mayor Weinberger not present for vote); motion carries.

3.06 Hiring of Senior Accounting Analyst - CT

MOTION by Councilor Pine, SECOND by Councilor Paul, to approve and recommend that the City Council approve the creation of a Senior Accounting Analyst, a Regular, Full-time, Exempt, Non-union, Grade 19 (\$63,530.36-\$75,772.04), position in the Clerk Treasurer's Office.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

3.07 Removal Of "Everyone Loves A Parade" Mural, Repair Of Wall, And Restoration Of Rainforest Mural - PACC

MOTION by Councilor Paul, SECOND by Councilor Pine, to recommend that the City Council approve the attached resolution.

DISCUSSION:

- Councilor Dieng asked if funds could be used from the Racial Justice Alliance budget could be used instead of contingency funding. Mayor Weinberger replied that his preference would be to use contingency funding. Councilor Paul added that the Parks, Arts, and Culture (PAC) Committee unanimously agreed that the contingency fund would be the most appropriate funding source for this work.
- Councilor Hightower asked about whether public input has been received about restoring the Rainforest Mural. Councilor Paul noted that a number of people spoke during public forum at the PAC Committee meeting in support of the restoration of the Rainforest Mural by the original artist.
- Councilor Dieng asked if the resolution directs the BCA to enter into an agreement with the artist. City Attorney Blackwood replied that yes, the artist would be contracted to help restore the mural. City Council President Tracy asked how long the City needs to store the ELAP mural once it is removed. City Attorney Blackwood said that the mural belongs to the City and that the City has the latitude to do what it wishes.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.



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4.0 ADJOURNMENT

4.01 Motion to Adjourn

MOTION by Mayor Weinberger, SECOND by Mayor Weinberger, to adjourn the Board of Finance meeting.

With no further business and without objection the meeting was adjourned at 6:01 PM.

RScty: AACoonrad