

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
JANUARY 29, 2018 AT 6:00 p.m.
COMMITTEE ROOM
WOBURN CITY HALL**

Voting Members present: Chairman Michael Concannon,
Alderman Richard Gately, Alderman Lindsay Higgins, Alderman Michael Anderson, Alderman
Edward Tedesco

Non-Voting Members present: Alderman Joanne Campbell, Alderman Mark Gaffney,
Alderman Darlene Mercer-Bruen, President Richard Haggerty

Also present: Director of Veterans Services Larry Guiseppe

On the Order to transfer \$240,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance to Veterans' Cash Aid Account: Director Guiseppe said for the past three years he has been making two requests each year for Veterans Cash Aid, which is now running about \$38,000-\$40,000 per month. If there is any excess cash from the appropriation, the money will revert to the city's general fund, according to Director Guiseppe. The state reimburses the city for cash aid at a rate of 75 percent, Director Guiseppe said. The Veterans Services Office is currently disbursing cash aid to 92 veterans, Director Guiseppe said, after starting with 22 people. President Haggerty asked how benefits are calculated. Director Guiseppe said veterans who earn more than \$1,960 per month or have more than \$5,000 in a checking or savings account are ineligible. He said veterans are eligible for a heating allowance of \$280 per month and are reimbursed for all out-of-pocket medical expenses, as well as Medicare Part B at a rate of \$134 per month. The Veterans Services Office also pays up to \$2,000 for funeral expenses for qualified veterans, Mr. Guiseppe said. He noted the three funeral parlors in the city will offer low rates for veterans and they understand that is the cost of doing business. Motion made by Alderman Gately and seconded by Alderman Higgins that the transfer "ought to pass;" approved, 5-0.

Motion made by Alderman Gately and seconded by Alderman Higgins to adjourn, all in favor, 5-0. Chairman Concannon adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Attest: _____
Gordon Vincent
Clerk of Committees