

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
DECEMBER 12, 2017 AT 7:00 PM  
COMMITTEE ROOM  
WOBURN CITY HALL**

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

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

**On the memo regarding a stabilization fund for the Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational High School:** Chairman Concannon said representatives from Northeast Voke were before the Committee last month to explain the process for establishing a stabilization fund for a new school, and the Committee had voted to submit a request to City Solicitor Ellen Callahan Doucette about whether the Committee can limit expenditures to the construction of the new building. Chairman Concannon said he has a copy of the response from the City Solicitor which indicates the Committee cannot attach any strings to the fund. Motion made by Alderman Gately and seconded by Alderman Higgins to receive a copy of the City Solicitor's memo and make it part of the permanent record; approved, 3-0. Alderman Gately said the concern is the money in the fund will pay for other items, but he noted the administrators at the Northeast Voke are good people whose intentions are above-board. Alderman Gately said he would back an appropriation for a new school if it comes to the City Council. President Haggerty said he supports the creation of a stabilization fund, but when the Northeast Voke administration comes before the Council for the appropriation the Council should take a hard look at what the funds are going to be used for. President Haggerty said the Committee sent the administration a clear message last month that any money in the stabilization fund should be used for the construction of a new building and related costs. President Haggerty said he is looking forward to seeing what type of appropriation is submitted. Chairman Concannon said the Council will be able to ask tough questions of the administration once the request for appropriation is submitted. Alderman Gately agreed the Council will have every right in the world to ask questions at that time. President Haggerty asked if there could be some kind of restrictions on the stabilization fund if all the communities in the district agree. Alderman Higgins said her interpretation of the City Solicitor's memo is placing any restrictions on the stabilization fund would not be allowed. Chairman Concannon said other towns in the district are probably having the same concerns about the stabilization fund. Motion made by Alderman Gately and seconded by Alderman Higgins endorsing the creation of a stabilization fund for the construction of a new Northeast Regional Vocational Technical High School; ought to pass, 3-0.

Motion made by Alderman Gately and seconded by Alderman Higgins to adjourn, all in favor, 3-0. Chairman Concannon adjourned the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Gordon Vincent  
Clerk of Committees