

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
FEBRUARY 12, 2018 AT 6:10 p.m.  
COMMITTEE ROOM  
WOBURN CITY HALL**

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

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

Also present: Mayor Scott Galvin

**On the Order to appropriate \$700,000 for repairs to the Ned O'Brien Ice Rink refrigeration and mechanical room renovation:** Mayor Galvin said he is asking the Council for a bond authorization for repairs to the rink. The bid process is complete and the bids came in at well under \$700,000, at around \$660,000. Mayor Galvin said there are two small change orders which will cover a fiberglass tower and a melter for the Zamboni ice. Mayor Galvin said the Council has to authorize the bond. Mayor Galvin said he is happy with the city's arrangement with Woburn Youth Hockey for management of the rink and if Woburn Youth Hockey is the successful bidder for the new lease the city will look toward negotiating annual maintenance projects. Mayor Galvin said the upgrades that will be paid for by the bond will result in a savings in maintenance costs and the chillers will be more efficient and use less energy. Chairman Concannon asked if the term of the bond is 10 years. Mayor Galvin said the term of the lease is 10 years, and the term of the bond is either 10 or 15 years. He said he isn't sure which, but he will check with bond counsel about the length of the term. Alderman Gately said the city is going to get reimbursed and can't get a much better deal than that. Alderman Gately said the city is doing the right thing by investing in rink maintenance, because once things start to go bad, they end up being more expensive. Mayor Galvin said the repairs should address the operations of the rink for 10-15 years. Alderman Gately asked if there is language in the lease that requires the equipment to be checked annually. Mayor Galvin said that is in there. President Haggerty said the maintenance component ought to be written into the lease. Chairman Concannon said if the lease is for 10 years, then the term of the bond ought to be for 10 years. Mayor Galvin said he does not have a problem if the Council wants to stipulate the bond is for 10 years. Motion made by Alderman Gately and seconded by Alderman Higgins that the appropriation "ought to pass;" approved, 4-0. Mayor Galvin advised the Council a roll call vote must be taken on the floor.

**On the Order to appropriate \$4,090,214.26 from Unreserved Fund Balance to Various Capital Projects:** Mayor Galvin said this year's list is slightly more comprehensive than usual because it includes two \$400,000 outlays for a feasibility study for a new fire station and the first of two installments for a New Boston Street bridge design study. President Haggerty asked when the feasibility study will be concluded. Mayor Galvin said the first step will be to decide the number of fire stations the city will need going forward by determining the response time from each proposed location. President Haggerty said it will be similar to how the city determines

where to build schools. Chairman Concannon asked about a time frame for the new fire station. Mayor Galvin said the library addition and renovation project and the new Hurld/Wyman School are coming soon and their bonds are staged in a way so the city pays \$10 million each year, and it may take two more years before the city can take on another bond for the new fire station. Mayor Galvin said there is an outlay for \$755,000 to re-pave the library parking lot this spring and the project will add 100 parking spaces. There is an outlay of \$700,000 to the DPW to augment state Chapter 90 funds to put the total cost of road construction at more than \$2 million. Alderman Mercer-Bruen asked about a \$26,000 outlay for a closeout of Leland Park. Mayor Galvin replied the money is for a final submission to the DEP that will hopefully close out the contamination issues at the site. Alderman Gately asked if Leland Park still has a Tier 1 classification. Mayor Galvin said it does. Alderman Mercer-Bruen suggested leaving the line item of \$700,000 in committee until DPW Supt. Jay Duran submits a list of roads that will be improved. Mayor Galvin said he would be happy to pull the \$700,000 line item for road improvements until the list is submitted. He said the city is looking to re-pave bigger roads like Montvale Avenue, parts of Winn Street, Mountain Road in North Woburn, and Main Street from Jack's Variety to the Route 128 rotary, and then some of the smaller roads. Alderman Mercer-Bruen suggested the Council ought to have some input about where the money to improve the roads ought to be spent. Alderman Gately said Holton Street has to be addressed before someone gets killed. He said the potholes in Holton Street are big enough to lose a Volkswagen, that it is a substandard street and the drainage is terrible, and the whole street needs to be re-done or it will come back to bite the city. Alderman Gately said there is an error in the \$190,000 line item for the purchase of two new dump trucks. He said that amount of money will only buy one truck. He asked about a \$231,706 line item for "RFID" for the library. Mayor Galvin said the RFID is a system that allows for books to be scanned and it will save time and manpower. Alderman Gately said he can't buy into that amount. He also said he would like to see a list of roads under consideration for repair before he endorsed the \$700,000 line item for road repairs. Chairman Concannon asked if the list of capital improvements was approved by the city's various department heads. Mayor Galvin said it was. Chairman Concannon asked about a \$36,000 line item for turnout gear for the Fire Dept. Mayor Galvin said the city is replacing turnout gear for at least one group of firefighters per year. Chairman Concannon said the mayor may want to consider replacing the turnout gear for more than one group each year. Alderman Mercer-Bruen asked about a \$25,000 line item from the Engineering Dept. for M/S 4 Compliance. Mayor Galvin replied the money is needed to bring a water runoff system into compliance with DEP regulations. Alderman Mercer-Bruen asked about a \$59,893.26 line item for a Rotary Trim Mower requested by the Parks Dept. Alderman Gately said that particular model of mower is needed for Library Park. Alderman Mercer-Bruen asked about a \$50,000 outlay for resurfacing the basketball and pickleball courts at Library Park. Mayor Galvin said pickleball is becoming a popular activity and the courts needs to be resurfaced. Alderman Gaffney arrived at 6:39 p.m. President Haggerty asked about a \$30,000 outlay for a digitizer for the Fire Dept. Mayor Galvin said the money will be used to upgrade a fire alarm system to the dispatch center. Alderman Gately asked if all the new vehicles bought with money from the appropriation will be hybrid models. Mayor Galvin said all the vehicles will be hybrids except for the police vehicles. President Haggerty asked about a \$30,715 line item for a Mobile Assessor requested by the Assessors Dept. Mayor Galvin said it is a software package that will make it easier for assessors in the field. Alderman Gately referenced a \$200,000 outlay for a front end loader and said that is about what they cost these days, and he added most of the front end loaders these days have a 3-

3.5-yard bucket. Alderman Higgins agreed she would prefer to see the \$700,000 line item removed from the appropriation until the list of streets to be improved is submitted. Alderman Tedesco said removing the \$700,000 line item would reduce the amount of the appropriation to \$3,390,214.26. President Haggerty asked if the \$700,000 DPW line item is removed, when would it be re-submitted. Mayor Galvin said he can submit another appropriation before the deadline on Thursday to make it onto the Council's agenda for Tuesday, February 20. President Haggerty said he is comfortable with that procedure. Chairman Concannon said he would consider a motion to approve the appropriation without the \$700,000 outlay for DPW road improvements. Motion made by Alderman Higgins and seconded by Alderman Tedesco to amend the appropriation to \$3,390,214.26, omitting the \$700,000 line item for DPW road improvements; approved, 4-0. Motion made by Alderman Gately and seconded by Alderman Tedesco to amend a \$190,000 line item for the DPW to read "Replace (1) 1997 6-wheel dump" instead of two dump trucks, approved, 4-0. Motion made by Alderman Tedesco and seconded by Alderman Higgins that the appropriation as amended "ought to pass;" approved, 4-0.

Motion made by Alderman Tedesco and seconded by Alderman Higgins to adjourn, all in favor, 4-0. Chairman Concannon adjourned the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gordon Vincent  
Clerk of Committees