

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
SEPTEMBER 24, 2018 AT 6:00 p.m.  
COMMITTEE ROOM  
WOBURN CITY HALL**

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

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

Also present: Mayor Scott Galvin

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**On the Order to transfer \$700,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance Acct to Road**

**Improvements:** Mayor Galvin said the loan order was originally appropriated in March, but it wasn't approved until after the July 15 date for certification of free cash. He said the money cannot be appropriated until after the council approves the appropriation again. He said there are no changes from the previous order. Alderman Mercer-Bruen asked if the money is for paving projects. Mayor Galvin said the money will be used to sign a contract to pave roads. Alderman Gaffney asked if the projects will be undertaken later this year. Mayor Galvin said some of the projects on the list may occur next April or May, depending upon the weather. He said Main Street between Central Square and the Route 128 rotary will be paved next week. He said Wildwood Avenue is being crack sealed, and he expects work on Russell Street to begin next week. He said the city is moving along with two other paving contracts and he would like to start the work under this contract next week. Alderman Mercer-Bruen asked Mayor Galvin if he could advise the council when the new contract is signed. Mayor Galvin said he will. Motion made by Alderman Anderson and seconded by Alderman Tedesco that the transfer "ought to pass," approved, 5-0.

**On the Order to transfer \$2,439,000 from General Stabilization Account to Various Capital projects:**

Mayor Galvin referred to an itemized list of capital projects that was compiled after department heads submitted requests for this fiscal year. Alderman Gaffney asked about the \$125,000 appropriation for turnout gear. Mayor Galvin said the appropriation will pay for two full sets of turnout gear. Alderman Gately referenced a new gas line and asked if it is for City Hall. Mayor Galvin said the gas line project is at the Senior Center. Alderman Gately referenced two appropriations for the Woburn Public Library and asked if that money was included in the bond authorization for the library project. Mayor Galvin said it was expected that money would be raised through naming rights to the library and fund-raising efforts, but there has not been as much money collected as originally anticipated. Alderman Gately said he was under the impression the money in the original appropriation would take care of the two line items in the capital budget. Mayor Galvin said the project is pushing up against the bond authorization and there were a couple of unanticipated events that have happened during construction. He said the city is still looking to sell the naming rights. Alderman Gately asked about the contingency fund for the library project. Mayor Galvin said the financial picture is very, very tight, and they are trying to keep it under the \$31.5 million figure in the bond authorization. In response to a

question from Alderman Anderson, Mayor Galvin said there is an immediate need for some of the items on the list of capital projects. He said if the city waits much longer, the costs may increase due to tariffs imposed on imported goods. Alderman Anderson asked what impact the transfer will have on free cash. Mayor Galvin said free cash will be reduced by the \$2,349,000 figure. Alderman Anderson asked how many washers and extractors for fire gear will be purchased with a \$10,000 line item. Mayor Galvin said the line item will pay for two sets of washers and extractors. Alderman Anderson asked at which stations the washers and extractors will be located. Mayor Galvin replied that is a decision which will be made by Fire Chief Adgate. Alderman Anderson asked about the status of the New Boston Street bridge project, for which there is a \$450,000 appropriation. Mayor Galvin said the project is at the 25 percent design stage. He said there will be a hearing in December. Alderman Anderson asked when there will be a shovel in the ground. Alderman Tedesco said there will be a shovel in the ground in 2021. Alderman Mercer-Bruen thanked mayor Galvin for a \$50,000 line item to upgrade the bathrooms at Leland Park. She said the entire city uses the park. Mayor Galvin said the bathrooms at Leland Park have been in bad shape for quite a while. Chairman Concannon asked if there is renewed interest in naming rights for the bathroom, will the city be reimbursed that amount? He said there may be more interest in acquiring the naming rights after the library re-opens. Mayor Galvin agreed there may be increased interest after the library re-opens. Chairman Concannon thanked Mayor Galvin for including a line item for turnout gear in the capital budget. Motion made by Alderman Anderson and seconded by Alderman Tedesco that the loan order “ought to pass,” approved, 5-0.

**Motion made by Alderman Anderson and seconded by Alderman Higgins to adjourn;** approved, 5-0. Chairman Concannon adjourned the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

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