

Finance and Government Operations Commission Meeting Minutes
Middletown, Connecticut
May 1, 2019 @ 5:30 pm
Municipal Building Room 208

Present: Councilman Sebastian Giuliano, Councilwoman Mary Bartolotta, Councilwoman Linda Salafia, Councilman Gerald Daley, Councilman Willie Cotton, Carl Erlacher, William Russo, Joseph Samolis

Absent: none

1. Councilwoman Bartolotta called the meeting to order and requested a motion to approve the March 27, 2019 Finance and Government meeting minutes. Councilman Giuliano motioned to approve, Councilman Daley second; unanimously approved.
2. Public Comments on the Agenda – none
3. Items submitted for discussion:

- **OGC – Appropriation Request totaling \$42,830 for outside counsel costs for FOIC cases**

Attorney Brig Smith explained the various requests that went to the FOIC were necessary because his client is the city and he is ethically conflicted from representing anybody in any of these cases. Councilman Giuliano, Councilwoman Bartolotta and Councilman Daley were abstaining from the vote due to conflict of interest. Councilwoman Salafia motioned to send to council floor, Councilman Cotton second; approved to send to council floor with three abstaining.

- **PCD – 1) Appropriation Request totaling \$10,000 for emergency clean-up of 220 Main Street; 2) Grant Confirmation totaling \$2,339.38 on Local donations for Open Space Initiatives; 3) Grant Reduction totaling (\$4500) in Local funds for Open Space Grant, due to completion of soil testing; 4) Grant Reduction totaling (\$243,750) in State funds for CT Open Space & Watershed Land Acquisition of the Pierce Property, grant rescinded when final purchase price could not be agreed upon**

Joe Samolis explained that the tenant located at 220 Main Street left without cleaning the facility; food and refuse were left in the building. Joe contacted two cleaning service companies for an emergency clean-up and went with the lowest quote which was from Servpro. Councilwoman Salafia motioned to send to the council floor, Councilman Giuliano second, unanimously approved.

Joe Samolis asked the chair if he could speak on items 2 and 4. He explained that there was other grant monies' from open space donations included in with the state funds and he would like to separate the two and open a separate line. He explained that the state rescinded the \$243,750 in state funds for CT Open Space when the final purchase price could not be agreed upon for the Pierce property.

Councilwoman Salafia motioned to send to the council floor, Councilman Giuliano second; unanimously approved.

- **Public Works – Appropriation Request totaling \$25,000 to cover Public Works Fleet Maintenance costs**

Councilman Giuliano motioned to approve and send to the council floor, Councilman Daley second; unanimously approved.

4. Reports

- Transfer of Funds/BOE Transfers
- General Fund Appropriations
- City's Investments
- Tax Collection Recap Report
- Professional Services Report
- Quarterly Reports – Arts & Culture and Senior Services checking accounts
- Monthly Expenditure Summary Report

5. Other

The next regular meeting is Wednesday, May 29, 2019 at 5:30 pm in Room 208

Respectfully Submitted by
Tracy Vess on behalf of Carl R. Erlacher