

Mar 25 2022 7:20 am



**City of Fitchburg
Massachusetts 01420**

CITY COUNCIL

Councilors at Large

Marcus L. DiNatale
Sally H. Cragin
Amy L. Green
Samantha M. Squailia
Anthony M. Zarrella

President

Anthony M. Zarrella

Vice President

Andrew J. Van Hazinga

Ward Councilors

Ward 1 – Bernard J. Schultz, III
Ward 2 – Paul R. Beauchemin
Ward 3 – Andrew J. Couture
Ward 4 – Andrew J. Van Hazinga
Ward 5 – Marisa R. Fleming
Ward 6 – Derrick J. Cruz

Finance Committee

A meeting of the Finance Committee was called to order by Councilor DiNatale on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 6:00 PM in the Legislative Building, 700 Main Street, Fitchburg, MA.

Committee Members present: Councilors Paul Beauchemin, Derrick Cruz, Marcus DiNatale, Andrew Van Hazinga, and Anthony Zarrella.

Committee Members absent: None.

The chairman read an announcement regarding the recording of public meetings, noting that FATV was recording and broadcasting the meeting. No other person stated that they were recording the meeting.

The chairman opened the meeting for public comment. No one spoke.

035-22 ORDER: that the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, SAFE grant in the approximate amount of \$3,255.00 (THREE THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED FIFTY-FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to educate seniors in the community regarding fire and life safety topics.

036-22 ORDER: that the City of Fitchburg hereby approves the expenditure of funds from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, SAFE grant in the approximate amount of \$6,275.00 (SIX THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE AND 00/100 DOLLARS) for the purpose of said grant, which is to continue to teach fire safety to students.

Discussion: The chairman took up both items #035-22 and #036-22. Fire Chief Dante Suarez and Firefighter Matthew Fraticelli were present. The chief said that the funds were for use in educating both senior citizens and students on fire safety topics. Firefighter Fraticelli spoke of the pride in educating students and seniors over the past seven years and working on outreach to the community. They reach out to seniors at some of the senior living facilities in the city and teach third graders in the city schools, bringing the SAFE trailer with them on the second visit.

Councilors asked why the third grade. Firefighter Fraticelli responded that the department used to visit first graders, but had to stop during the two years of Covid. They shifted to the third grade and found that those students developed a better understanding of the material being taught. Councilors asked about other outreach, especially with smoke detectors, and were told by the chief that there is a continuous effort to educate the public. Whenever the department is on a call, whether for fire or ambulance service, the firefighters check for detectors and whether they are working. Councilors were encouraged by the outreach to the community.

Action: On a motion by Councilor Beauchemin, second by Councilor Van Hazinga, the committee voted unanimously to approve Orders #035-22 and #036-22.

037-22 ORDER: that there be and hereby is transferred from within the sum of FIFTEEN THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED TWO AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$15,552.00) same to be transferred from VETERANS PERSONAL SERVICES, CLERICAL and credited to VETERANS EXPENSES, TEMPORARY PERSONAL SERVICES.

Discussion: The chairman read a letter from Veterans Services Commissioner Michelle Marino dated March 2, 2022.

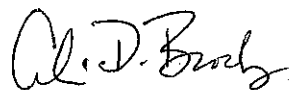
Action: On a motion by Councilor Zarrella, second by Councilor Van Hazinga, the committee voted unanimously to approve Order #037-22.

The chairman reminded the committee that it will start meeting on Wednesday's beginning in April and that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 13th.

On a motion made by Councilor Zarrella, second by Councilor Van Hazinga, the committee voted unanimously to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 6:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Calvin D. Brooks, Clerk



CITY OF FITCHBURG

Veterans' Services Department
718 Main Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420



Tel. 978-829-1797
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MICHELE MARINO
Commissioner

Email: mmarino@fitchburg-ma.gov

March 2, 2022

Mayor Stephen L. DiNatale
City Hall
718 Main Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420

Dear Mayor DiNatale:

I respectfully request that the amount of \$15,552.00 be transferred from the Veterans Clerical account to the Veterans Temporary Personal Services.

The transfer is needed in order to cover the costs of the temporary personal services obtained after the position was vacated by the former clerk. This transfer does not incur any additional expenses for the Veterans' Department beyond what has already been approved for FY 22 and will allow for the proper accounting for the Veterans' Department.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,


Michele Marino
Veterans Services Commissioner

Cc'd; Calvin Brooks