

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
April 4, 2016 @ 5:15 pm

Councilors in Attendance: Faircloth, Nichols, Baldacci, Durgin, Nealley, Sprague, Perry, Graham

Staff in Attendance: Cyr, Conlow, Theriault, Dawes, Hathaway, Higgins, Nadeau, Little, Hamilton, Comstock

Others in Attendance: Marysdaughter, Staples, Cassidy, Kelly

1. Bids/Purchasing

- a. Court Street Sewer Separation Project – Engineering – Lou Silver Inc - \$376,466

Motion made and seconded to recommend award of contract to the City Council. Motion passed unanimously.

- b. Roof Replacement 690 Maine Avenue – Airport –

Motion made and seconded to recommend award of contract to Roof Systems of Maine, the low bidder to the City Council. Motion passed unanimously.

- c. Sidewalk Blowers – Fleet Maintenance – Nortrax - \$12,000

Motion made and seconded to accept the offer from Nortrax to purchase replacement blowers (hydraulic versus chain drive) for two sidewalk machines. The price reflects the cost difference between the two systems. Motion made and seconded to authorize the purchase. Motion passed unanimously.

- d. Total Station Electronic Measuring System – Police – Collision Forensic Solutions - \$19,495

Motion made and seconded to purchase the unit. Motion passed unanimously.

- e. Authorization of Service Contract – Fire - Physio Control - \$31,374

Motion made and seconded to authorize the executive of the service contract. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Taxpayer Request – 38 Jowett Street

This taxpayer requested the Committee's consideration to waive approximately \$5,000 of interest and fees on the amount of outstanding real estate taxes. The taxpayer has 18 years of outstanding taxes. This began when his mortgage was paid in full and the taxes were no longer escrowed. He indicated he approached Treasury once over 10 years ago to make a

partial payment but was told he had to pay in full. The taxpayer has received all the tax bills, demand notices and matured lien notices over the years. Staff did not find any issues where the City played a role in the non-payment. A motion was made and seconded to not waive any of the interest. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Workout Agreement – 104 Mt. Hope Avenue

This taxpayer proposed a workout agreement to cover 14 years of outstanding taxes. The proposed repayment term would take 13 years. In addition, the taxpayer was requesting some relief from the interest and fees that have accrued. Under the terms of the workout agreement all current amounts must be paid and if two payments are missed the agreement is void. A motion was made and seconded to move forward with the proposed workout agreement and to not waive any of the interest and fees. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Greater Bangor Solarize

Motion was made and seconded to recommend to the full Council an Order to support Greater Bangor Solarize efforts. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Bangor Efficiency Program

Councilors reviewed and discussed the outstanding questions from the prior meeting. Councilor Graham wanted to split the funding over two years and Councilor Nealley wanted to include the discussion regarding the creation and funding of a new program until the budget process. The majority indicated their support to follow the Efficiency Maine guidelines with the one exception being that the rebates were for owner occupied homes only. The Committee moved to accept the program and recommend the funding to the full Council. The motion passed 4-1, with Councilor Nealley voting against the motion.

6. Update on Properties with Matured Tax Liens

Staff provided an update and comparison of real estate liens. Of the 383 individuals with current liens, 145 of these have at least one matured tax lien. Of the 145, staff has identified a total of 81 properties with at least five years of past due taxes and is working their way through these in a phased approach.

Of the 14 that are currently in process, staff recommendation is take possession of two that are comprised of vacant land immediately and a third will require some additional research as it is a building on land owned by another party.

The Committee recommended the taking of the properties identified by staff to the full Council unanimously.

7. Lead Fiscal Agent Application

The mechanism that distributes Healthy Maine Partnership funding is changing. Part of the change requires the need to identify a lead fiscal agent within each of the nine statewide districts. The City is the current lead within the Penquis District, accordingly, the request is to authorize the City to apply to serve as Lead Fiscal Agent. The Committee unanimously recommended the application. As the application is due prior to the next Council meeting, an Order will be placed on the agenda ratifying the application.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm