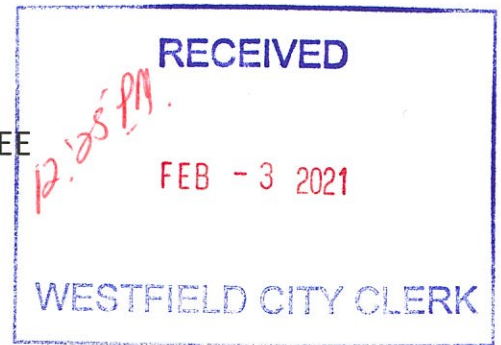


MINUTES FINANCE COMMITTEE
January 19, 2021
VIA ZOOM



The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:01PM. Committee members present were Councilors Figy, Matthews-Kane, and Sullivan. Also in attendance were Councilor Burns and Onyski, Fran Cain and Scott Hathaway from the DPW, and Jay Vinski, City Planner.

Councilor Sullivan made a motion to accept the minutes from the 12-29-2020 meeting, and Councilor Figy seconded it. The motion passed with a 2-0 positive vote. Councilors Figy and Sullivan voted yes.

Councilor Matthews-Kane made a motion to accept a grant in the amount of \$20,000 from the Mass. Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs to the Department of Public Works for Urban Forest Enhancement. Councilor Sullivan seconded the motion. Mr. Hathaway stated that this grant is for Gateway Cities and is for anything dealing with planting trees. This will be concentrated in Wards 2 and 3. This includes stump removal as well. There will be a variety of trees to choose from and a concerted effort will be made not to plant trees under power lines.

The motion passed by a 3-0 vote with Councilors Figy, Matthews-Kane, and Sullivan voting yes. Motion passed 3-0

Councilor Matthews-Kane made a motion to waive the Zoning and Permitting fees for the Westfield Boys and Girls Club expansion. The motion was seconded by the Chair. Councilor Sullivan excused himself as there may be a conflict of interest with his brother being an employee of the Boys and Girls Club. He is waiting for an opinion from the State Ethics Commission.

City Planner, Jay Vinski explained the fees are set by the City Council and therefore will need to be waived by the City Council. Councilor Matthews-Kane asked if this had ever happened before and the Chair stated not to his recollection. City Planner stated that once before a church had requested by the council did not waive the fees. It is of note that the proposed expansion is on City

Property. The Planning Board has approved the project and the Club has given the City a check for the fees. The total amount of the fees is \$1081.00.

The motion passed by a 2-0 vote with Councilor Figy and Councilor Matthews-Kane voting yes. Motion Passed 2-0.

Respectfully submitted.

Ralph Figy, Chair