

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Regular meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Tuesday, April 10, 2007 in the Cranston High School East Auditorium, 899 Park Ave., Cranston, Rhode Island.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 P.M. by the Chair.

Present: Councilman Terence Livingston, Chair  
Council Vice-President Paula McFarland, Vice-Chair  
Councilman Anthony J. Lupino  
Councilman Emilio L. Navarro  
Councilman Jeffrey P. Barone  
Council President Aram G. Garabedian

Also Present: Councilman Richard D. Santamaria, Jr.  
Councilman John E. Lanni, Jr.  
Charles Garganese, Jr., Assistant City Solicitor  
Corsino DelGado, Director of Finance  
Frank Smith, City Assessor  
Steve Woerner, City Council Internal Auditor  
Maria Medeiros Wall, City Clerk  
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees  
Ron Ronzio, Stenographer

On motion by Councilman Barone, seconded by Council President Garabedian, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **REAL ESTATE/TANGIBLE TAX ABATEMENTS**

**Mr. Smith** appeared to speak.

On motion by Councilman Barone, seconded by Council President Garabedian, it was voted to recommend approval of this list of Abatements. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **MOTOR VEHICLE TAX ABATEMENTS**

**Mr. Smith** appeared to speak.

On motion by Councilman Barone, seconded by Council President Garabedian, it was voted to recommend approval of this list of Abatements. Motion passed unanimously.

## **TAX ASSESSMENT BOARD OF REVIEW DECISIONS (informational only)**

Councilman Barone stated that he has not reviewed this list.

On motion by Councilman Barone, seconded by Council President Garabedian, it was voted to refer this list to next month's meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

## **TAX INTEREST WAIVER LIST**

None.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **6-06-7 Ordinance in amendment of Title 13.08.150 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, entitled "Sewer Service System" (Establishing a Revolving Loan Fund for Connecting to the City Sewer System). Cont. from 1/11/2007, 2/15/2007 and 3/15/2007.**

City Clerk stated that at last month's meeting, this Ordinance was continued to the May meeting and it is listed on this agenda in error.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

### **3-07-6 Ordinance amending the Budget for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2006 and ending June 30, 2007 (Inspections Department Permit Technician).**

Council Vice-President McFarland stated that she met with Steve Labrie, Agent for the Teamsters Union and the Administration and reviewed this Ordinance from last year's version and according to the Administration, this position is vacant and the next person hired would be through the testing process. The only change in this Ordinance is this position is going from unclassified to classified and it would be a tested position.

Chair read an e-mail sent to him from Gail Topakian, Personnel Analyst, which gives the Personnel Department's opinion on the change in this position. She states that the Personnel Department's position is if this Ordinance is passed, this may get rid of an employee who is already doing the work.

Council Vice-President McFarland stated that she spoke to the State Building Commissioner and he suggests that this position be classified, as it is throughout the country. As to the replacing of a current employee, this position is vacant.

Chair suggested that this Ordinance be continued for one month and ask the Personnel Director to appear at next month's meeting to state why this department is not in favor of this Ordinance.

Councilman Barone asked that the rest of the Council members be provided with a copy of the e-mail from Ms. Topakian that was sent to the Chair.

On motion by Councilman Barone, seconded by Council President Garabedian, it was voted to continue this Ordinance to next month's meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

- 3-07-7 Ordinance in amendment of Chapter 3 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, entitled "Revenue and Finance" (Commercial Tax Incentive Five Year).**
- 3-07-8 Ordinance in amendment of Chapter 3 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, entitled "Revenue and Finance" (Commercial Tax Incentive Ten Years).**
- 3-07-9 Ordinance in amendment of Chapter 3 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, entitled "Revenue and Finance" (Industrial Tax Incentive Five Years).**
- 3-07-10 Ordinance in amendment of Chapter 3 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, entitled "Revenue and Finance" (Industrial Tax Incentive Ten Years).**

**Paula Rocha**, Director of Economic Development, appeared to speak regarding Ordinances 3-07-7 thru 3-07-10. Councilman Barone asked if there are any new companies who are applying now for any of these Incentives. Ms. Rocha stated that there is one application on this agenda from Oaklawn Realty/Washington Trust Co., who are applying for a five year Tax Incentive Program. Councilman Barone questioned how a Tax Incentive Application can be approved at the same time the Tax Incentive Ordinances are being considered. Ms. Rocha stated that the application listed on this agenda for consideration would fall under the old Ordinance and not the ones that are on the agenda this evening.

On motion by Council Vice-President McFarland, seconded by Council President Garabedian, it was voted to recommend approval of Ordinances 3-07-3 thru 3-07-10. Motion passed on a vote of 5-1. The following being recorded as voting "aye": Councilmen Livingston, Lupino, Navarro, Council Vice-President McFarland and Council President Garabedian -5. The following being recorded as voting "nay": Councilman Barone -1.

**Tax Incentive Application for Washington Trust Company for property located at 1203 Oaklawn Ave.**

**Paula Rocha**, Director of Economic Development, appeared to speak.

On motion by Council Vice-President McFarland, seconded by Councilman Lupino, it was voted to recommend approval of the above Tax Incentive Application. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalba Zanni  
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees