

(The following is not a verbatim transcript of comments or discussion that occurred during the meeting, but rather a summarization intended for general informational purposes. All motions and votes are the official records).

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Regular meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Thursday, May 12, 2011 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Cranston, Rhode Island.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. by the Chair.

Present: Council Vice-President Robert J. Pelletier, Chair
Councilman Steven A. Stycos, Vice-Chair
Councilman Paul H. Archetto
Councilman James E. Donahue
Councilman Michael W. Favicchio
Council President Anthony J. Lupino

Absent: Councilman Emilio L. Navarro

Also Present: Robin Muksian-Schutt, Director of Administration
Gerald Cordy, Deputy Director of Administration
Evan Kirshenbaum, Assistant City Solicitor
Robert Strom, Director of Finance
Steve Woerner, City Council Internal Auditor
Maria Medeiros Wall, City Clerk
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees
Tracey Shepherd, Stenographer

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

On motion by Councilman Favicchio, seconded by Council President Lupino, 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:

OLD BUSINESS:

3-11-7 *Ordinance in amendment of Chapter 3.12 of the Code of the City of Cranston, 2005, entitled "Taxes Generally" (Tax Bill Recycling Notice).* [\[click here to view\]](#)

On motion by Councilman Stycos, seconded by Councilman Favicchio, it was voted to amend the above Ordinance as follows: lines 24 & 25, after "note", delete "on where to access information explaining which materials should be recycled and the environmental and economic benefits" and add "to encourage" and remove words "all Motor Vehicles" in line 26.

Under Discussion:

Ms. Schutt stated that we are looking at adding this information to the actual tax letter the Mayor sends with the tax bills.

Roll call was taken on motion to amend above Ordinance and motion passed unanimously.

On motion by Councilman Favicchio, seconded by Councilman Stycos, it was voted to approve the above Ordinance as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING

NEW BUSINESS

- *Tax Interest Waiver Approvals*

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Donahue, it was voted to recommend approval of the above Real Estate and Tangible Tax Abatements. Motion passed unanimously.

- *Real Estate and Tangible Tax Abatements*

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Donahue, it was voted to recommend approval of the above Real Estate and Tangible Tax Abatements. Motion passed unanimously.

- *Motor Vehicle Tax Abatements*

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Donahue, it was voted to recommend approval of the above Real Estate and Tangible Tax Abatements. Motion passed unanimously.

- *Tax Assessment Board of Review Decisions due to Taxes Assessed December 31, 2009*
(informational only)

No action needed.

4-11-4 Ordinance ratifying School Committee's collective bargaining agreement with the Teachers Assistants/Bus Aides and Technical Assistants Unit (School Years 2010-2011 – 2012-2013). [\[click here to view\]](#)

Council President Lupino stated that some of the School Committee members have asked that this Ordinance be tabled for one month because they are in further negotiations with this union.

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Donahue, it was voted to continue this Ordinance for one month. Motion passed unanimously.

City Clerk asked if the Committee wishes the School Committee to be contacted and asked to appear at the next meeting to make a presentation regarding this contract. Chair stated, yes.

Resolution urging Congressional approval of continuation of funding of the Community Services Block Grant. [\[click here to view\]](#)

No one appeared to speak in favor or to oppose.

On motion by Councilman Archetto, seconded by Council President Lupino, it was voted to recommend approval of this Resolution. Motion passed unanimously.

Video Recording stipend

City Clerk stated that the current volunteer, who is doing the video recording of the Council meetings, will be able to continue. She has contacted various Cities and Towns to see what they paid their volunteers and the lowest rate she found was \$15 per hour in Pawtucket. That person is willing to take over when our current volunteer leaves and there is no conflict with the Pawtucket Council meetings. They would also be using the Public Access equipment.

There are funds in the Budget that would cover the \$15 stipend. Question was asked on how the person would get paid, whether as a 1099 or as a part-timer. Ms. Schutt stated that the most practical way would be as a part-timer because if it is done as a 1099, it would cause issues and questions from the IRS.

Chair asked that the City Clerk discuss this with Mr. Strom as to method of payment.

On motion by Council President Lupino, seconded by Councilman Favicchio, it was voted to approve allocation of funds from the City Council Budget to pay for a person to video tape Council meetings at a rate of \$15 per hour. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rosalba Zanni". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the letter "i".

Rosalba Zanni
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees