

**NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS**

**MEETING:** COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
**DATE:** MARCH 21, 2022  
**TIME:** 7:01 P.M.  
**PLACE:** HELD REMOTELY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GOVERNOR OF MASSACHUSETTS' MARCH 12, 2020, ORDER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW G. L. C. 30A, SECTION 20 WITH AN EXTENSION SIGNED ON JUNE 16, 2021, AND THE CITY COUNCIL'S VOTE TO WAIVE RULE 21A ON JANUARY 13, 2022  
**PRESENT:** COUNCILLORS WILLIAM BRAD MARKEY, CHAIRMAN (REMOTELY); SCOTT LIMA, VICE CHAIRMAN (REMOTELY); IAN ABREU (REMOTELY); DEREK BAPTISTE (7:10) (REMOTELY); SHANE BURGO, (REMOTELY); NAOMI CARNEY (7:20) (REMOTELY); HUGH DUNN (REMOTELY); MARIA GIESTA (REMOTELY); BRIAN GOMES (REMOTELY); LINDA MORAD (REMOTELY); RYAN PEREIRA (REMOTELY)  
**ABSENT:** NO ONE

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Councillor Markey called the Finance Committee Meeting to order and took attendance; everyone was present.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, R. Renee Fernandes, Treasurer/Collector to Councillor William Brad Markey, Chairman, Committee on Finance, requesting a vote of the Finance Committee to approve the sale and rate of interest for \$37,822,432 in Bond Anticipation Notes and \$7,825,000 in Bonds (Ref'd 02/23/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Giesta. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays, 0; with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Carney not present for the vote. (1)

Renee Fernandes, Treasurer/Collector was present and gave the Committee an overview of the Bond Anticipation Notes and Bonds. She told the Committee the successful bidder of the \$35,810,114 tax exempt Not Sale held today was JP Morgan Securities LLC with a net interest cost of 4.237% and a premium of \$629,541.81. The city received four (4) bids. The debt will mature on April 13, 2023.

The successful bidder of the \$2,012,318 taxable Note Sale was held by Piper Sandler & Co., with a net reserve cost of 1.566% and a premium of \$18,734.68. The city received 4 bids. The debt will mature April 13, 2023. The successful bidder of \$7,825,124 Bond Sale was held with Fidelity Capital Markets with an average interest rate of 2.874% for 28-year debt and a net premium of \$509,124 which reduced the bond to \$7,235,000. The city received two bids for the issue.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the sale and rate of interest for \$37,822,432 in Bond Anticipation Notes and \$7,825,000 in Bonds. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0; with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillor Carney not present for the vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Derek Santos, Executive Director, New Bedford Economic Development Council, to Council President Lopes and Members of the City Council, submitting a TIF application and Resolution approved by the Tax Increment Financing Board for a five (5) year TIF Agreement for NFI, LLC and 22 Logan Street, New Bedford, MA 02740 (Copies provided and distributed to all Councillors on 11/19/2021.) (Ref'd 12/09/2021) was received and placed on file by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Dunn. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0; with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillor Carney not present for the vote. (2, 2a)

Ramon Silva, Senior Director, New Bedford Economic Development Council was present and gave an overview of the 5-Year TIF Agreement for NFI, LLC and 22 Logan Street, LLC. NFI is a high-performance graphic solution industry. The New Bedford operation has forty (40) full-time employees, they are to relocate to 22 Logan Street. They will be bringing an additional sixty (60) positions to the new location. The move will include a \$1,400,000 investment.

Alan Rose, CFO for NFI was asked why they were leasing a new location instead of purchasing it. He explained that the Board of Trustees prefer to lease their locations. The current locations they are in are re leased. They are currently entering into a seven (7) year automatic renewal unless they cancelled. The salaries for skill set salary and wages entry level fees \$17-\$18 per hour. Mechanics at an hourly rate of \$35-\$36.00 and administrators at market rate.

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Dunn, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the TIF Application and Resolution for a five (5) year TIF Agreement for NFI, LLC and 22 Logan Street, New Bedford, MA 02740. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillor Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillor Baptiste not present for the vote.

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Councillor Markey asked without objection if items three (3) and four (4) can be taken up at the same time. There were no objections, the Clerk read items three (3) and four (4).

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER authorizing the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form for the Charles S. Ashley Elementary School, located at 122 Rochambeau Street, New Bedford (Ref'd

03/10/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Giesta. This motion passed on a Roll Call vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Gomes, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillor Baptiste not present for the vote. (3, 3a)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting AN ORDER authorizing the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 16, 2022, for the Jireh Swift Elementary School located at 2203 Acushnet Avenue (Ref'd 03/10/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Dunn. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote. (4, 4a)

Andrew O'Leary, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations for New Bedford Public Schools, the proposal relates to authorizing the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form for the Charles S. Ashley Elementary School and the Jireh Swift Elementary School. He explained that though a decision will need to be made by the Building Committee, he believes the proposal would be to build one school in place of the two schools.

On motion by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Pereira, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the Order, authorizing the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form for the Charles S. Ashley Elementary School, located at 122 Rochambeau Street, New Bedford. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillor Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes were not present for the vote.

On motion by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Pereira, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the Order, authorizing the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated February 16, 2022, for the Jireh Swift Elementary School located at 2203 Acushnet Avenue. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Janine da Silva, Chairperson of the Community Preservation Committee submitting the Community Preservation Committee's FY22 Community Preservation Act Funding recommendations (Copy all Councillors 02/28/2022.) (Ref'd 03/10/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Dunn. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillor Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote. (5)

Councillor Dunn made a motion to receive and place on file the packet submitted by the CPA with the projects and amounts, which was seconded by Councillor Lima. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

Janine DaSilva, Community Preservation Committee Chairperson and Jessica Bailey, Community Preservation Act Coordinator gave an overview of each of the sixteen (16) projects. After a brief discussion of each item the Committee voted on each item individually, they are as follows:

**1. *Brooklawn Skate Park Design for \$22,000***

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$22,000 for the Brooklawn Skate Park Design. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

**2. *City Wide Signage for Parks for \$24,000***

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$24,000 for the City Wide Signage for Parks. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 8, Nays 1, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Pereira, yes; Morad, no; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

**3. *Cliftex II for \$86,000***

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$86,000 for Cliftex II. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 8, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

**4. *Digitization of Maritime Records for \$14,000***

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$14,000 for Digitization of Maritime Records. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillor Gomes not present for the vote.

**5. *Digitization of Milton Silvia Negative Collection Part II for \$20,000***

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Lima, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$20,000 for the Digitization of Milton Silvia Negative Collection Part II. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Mora, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillor Gomes not present for the vote.

**6. *First Baptist Church Restoration for \$108,000***

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Burgo, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$108,000 for the First Baptist Church Restoration. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillor Gomes not present for the vote.

**7. *Gallery X Exterior Painting for \$86,000***

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$86,000 for the Gallery X Exterior Painting. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillor Gomes not present for the vote.

**8. *George Washington Portrait Conservation for \$26,000***

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Lima, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$26,000 for the George Washington Portrait Conservation. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 10, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Baptiste, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillor Gomes not present for the vote.

**9. *Holy Family High School Adaptive Re-Use Project for \$175,000***

On motion by Councillor Dunn and seconded by Councillor Lima, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$175,000 for the Holy Family High School Adaptive Re-Use Project. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 8, Nays 1, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Pereira, yes; Morad, no; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

**10. *James Arnold Mansion Roof Final Phase for \$100,000***

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$100,000 for the James Arnold Mansion Roof Final Phase. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 8, Nays 1, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Pereira, yes; Morad, no; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

**11. *LGBTQ+ Community Center Handicap Accessibility for \$200,000***

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Dunn, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$200,000 for the LGBTQ+ Community Center Handicap Accessibility. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes;

Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

**12. *New Bedford Whaling Museum Bourne Building Masonry Repair for \$187,500***

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Dunn, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$187,500 for the New Bedford Whaling Museum Bourne Building Masonry Repair. This motion FAILED on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 5, Nays 4, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Dunn, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Carney, no; Giesta, no; Morad, no; Pereira, no; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

**13. *Rotch-Jones-Duff House Masonry Repairs for \$142,900***

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Burgo, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$142,900 for the Rotch-Jones-Duff House Masonry Repairs. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

**14. *Strand Theater Restoration for \$300,000***

On motion by Councillor Dunn and seconded by Councillor Burgo, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$300,000 for the Strand Theater Restoration. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 8, Nays 1, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Pereira, yes; Morad, no; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

**15. *Temple Landing II for \$93,600***

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Burgo, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$93,600 for the Temple Landing II. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

**16. *Thomas Department Store Envelope Assessment for \$15,000***

On motion by Councillor Lima and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To APPROVE the \$15,000 for the Thomas Department Store Envelope Assessment. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

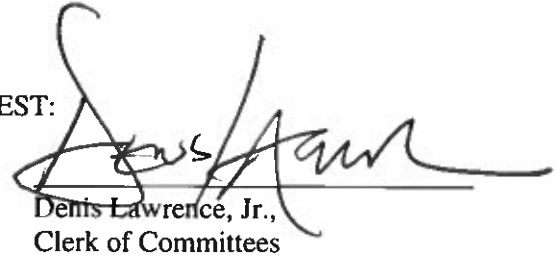
On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lima, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the ORDER, for the Community Preservation Act FY22 Funding Recommendations for fifteen (15) Projects totaling \$1,412,500.00. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays

0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

Councillor Burgo made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Pereira. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 0, with Councillors Abreu, yes; Burgo, yes; Carney, yes; Dunn, yes; Giesta, yes; Lima, yes; Markey, yes; Morad, yes; Pereira, yes; with Councillors Baptiste and Gomes not present for the vote.

This meeting adjourned @ 9:06 p.m.

ATTEST:



Denis Lawrence, Jr.,  
Clerk of Committees