

**NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS**

**MEETING: COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**  
**DATE: JULY 13, 2022**  
**TIME: 7:00 P.M.**  
**PLACE: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 214, MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLORS WILLIAM BRAD MARKEY, CHAIRMAN; IAN ABREU; DEREK BAPTISTE; SHANE BURGO; NAOMI CARNEY; HUGH DUNN (7:20); MARIA GIESTA; RYAN PEREIRA (7:05)**

**ABSENT: COUNCILLORS SCOTT LIMA, VICE CHAIRMAN; BRIAN GOMES, LINDA MORAD**

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Councillor Markey called the Finance Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk read Communications from Councillors Gomes, Lima, and Morad explaining their absences from this meeting; and a letter from Councillor Pereira explaining his tardiness to this meeting. These Communications were received and placed on file by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Giesta.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting a Lease Extension and Amendment between the New Bedford Airport Commission and Airport Mini Storage, Inc. (Ref'd 06/23/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Burgo. (1, 1a)

Carlos DaCunha, Chairman of the Airport Commission was present and gave an overview of the request to amend the lease extension between the Airport Mini Storage Company and the New Bedford Airport Commission. He explained that the business has been a tenant on Airport owned property since 1985. The Company currently has a lease in place until 2035. The Company is looking to sell their business and as an agreement of the sale, they are asking that the city grant a lease extension by twenty-seven years, which will result in a forty-year lease as they have thirteen years left on their original lease. Mr. DaCunha explained that the Airport Commission is in favor of the extension, and they have re-negotiated the payment that will take place once the original thirteen years expires, which would take place at the end of the existing thirteen-year term. He explained that while the \$40,000 calculation is based on current market value and does not take effect until, the thirteen-year term ends. The Commission was comfortable with the price, stating it will be substantially more than what the company is paying for the remaining thirteen years.

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Burgo, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council Approval of the LEASE EXTENSION AND AMENDMENT between the New Bedford Airport Commission and Airport Mini Storage, Inc. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting a LOAN ORDER, appropriating \$11,170,000 for the purpose of making critically needed repairs to City-owned building, including but not limited to, projects for the repair and renovation of public safety facilities, recreational facilities, general office space, and roads and infrastructure and all costs incidental and related thereto (Ref'd 06/23/2022) was received and placed on file by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Burgo. (2, 2a)

Michael Gagne, Interim CFO, was present and gave an overview of the Administration's request for approval of a Loan Order in the amount of \$11,170,000 for the purpose of making critically needed repairs for city owned buildings. He explained the request is being made so that the critical issues are dealt with sooner than later and the latter costing the city more to address.

He was asked by the Committee how this Loan Order would affect the taxpayer and Mr. Gagne stated that the average home in the city is currently valued at \$250,770.00 which equated to an average ta bill of \$3,910.00. Approving this Loan Order would result in an increase of \$14.00 of that average bill total.

Mr. Gagne was asked if the funding from the last Loan Order approval had been expended. He explained that they had not and that there were some projects that were still ongoing. He stated that if there were any funds remaining that a request would be sent to the Council for approval to reallocate the remaining funds to other projects needed. It is estimated that \$3,200,000 may be returned for FY21.

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Burgo, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council Approval of the LOAN ORDER, appropriating \$11,170,000 for the purpose of making critically needed repairs to City-owned buildings, including but not limited to, projects for the repair and renovation of public safety facilities, recreational facilities, general office space, and roads and infrastructure and all costs incidental and related thereto. This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 7, Nays 1, with Councillor Carney opposed.

Councillor Burgo made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Giesta.

This meeting adjourned @ 7:37 p.m.

ATTEST:



Denis Lawrence, Jr.  
Clerk of Committees