



## CITY OF NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

**MEETING:** COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
**DATE:** MARCH 20, 2025  
**TIME:** 7:00 P.M.  
**PLACE:** CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 214

**PRESENT:** COUNCILLORS LINDA MORAD, CHAIR; IAN ABREU; DEREK BAPTISTE; SHANE BURGO (7:04); NAOMI CARNEY; LEO CHOQUETTE; MARIA GIESTA; BRIAN GOMES; JOSEPH LOPES; SHAWN OLIVER; RYAN PERERIA

**ABSENT:** NO ONE

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Councillor Morad called the Finance Committee meeting to order, took attendance, and explained that the meeting was being recorded and live-streamed. The Clerk read a Communication into the record from Councillor Burgo explaining his tardiness. The Communication was received and placed on file by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Oliver.

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COMMUNICATION (Matter ID #1817) and a LOAN ORDER (Matter ID #1818), submitted by Mayor Mitchell, appropriating \$13,494,375.00 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, replacement of capital equipment and vehicles, and roads and infrastructure improvements. (Referred – November 14, 2024.)

The Chair explained that the Committee would take up each funding request individually and allow for questions. At the completion of questioning, the Chair will then receive Motions as it relates to the funding for each Department.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Pereira, the Committee VOTED: To receive and place on file a spreadsheet submitted by Councillor Morad, breaking down the Loan Order into each department requesting funds, purpose for the requested funds, and exact amount of requested funds.

The Chair recognized Michael Thomas, Director of Emergency Medical Services (EMS), to speak on the request for vehicle replacement in the amount of \$980,000.00.

Councillor Pereira asked if this request would replace older equipment and allow for new units. Mr. Thomas said yes, and that he is currently looking to retire/decommission 2017 equipment. This request would replace one medical unit and two trucks. The Councillor asked if he would be content with one medical unit and one truck this year, skip a year, then request funding for the second truck. Mr. Thomas stated he would be agreeable.

Councillor Lopes asked if both SUVs were in dire need of replacement now. Mr. Thomas said he would be in a position to accept one new truck now and then a second at a later date.

Councillor Oliver asked what the rotation process was for the vehicles. Mr. Thomas answered that the industry standard is three years, simply because they are running 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. His Department has been using the industry standard guidelines.

The Committee recessed at 7:12 pm and readjourned at 7:16 pm.

The Chair recognized Fire Chief Scott Kruger to speak on the request for \$114,000.00 for a training facility and \$195,476.00 for vehicle replacement.

Chief Kruger explained that while the request referenced a 2023 vehicle, it would actually be a 2025 vehicle, and added that this request was originally made in 2023. The vehicle request would replace fire prevention units. Currently, all three of the units being used since 2008 have been deemed not safe or suitable for driving. The vehicles would be replaced with smaller hybrid SUVs and a van that would be used for carrying fire prevention equipment and educational items.

The Chair recognized Scott Carola, Asst. Deputy Chief for the Police Department, to speak on the request for \$128,841.00 for fire wall replacement and \$538,359.00 for vehicle replacement. The Asst. Deputy Chief announced that the firewall replacement had been paid for, and the Department would no longer require the funding request.

Councillor Pereira expressed concern that the Police Department is looking for half a million dollars to replace vehicles, yet he is constantly having to deal with complaints about Police response in the Ward he represents. The Councillor made reference to the ATV and motor bike issues in his Ward. Asst. Deputy Chief Corola stated the Department shares the same frustration and that it is tired of these drivers who are taunting neighborhoods and Police Officers. He stated there is a plan to deal with this nuisance by finding out where the equipment is stored and tackling the issue at its root cause. He went on to say that cruisers are at the frontline of law enforcement, and that the Department made no purchases last year. The Asst. Deputy Chief was asked if they could extend the purchase of vehicles another year, to which he responded that it takes a year to purchase a vehicle and have it outfitted. He added that if the Committee asks to wait another year, in reality it could mean a two-to-three year wait.

Councillor Lopes asked if the purchases would be new. The Asst. Deputy Chief did not know, but explained that the funding would be used to purchase seven SUVs. The Department would look to purchase hybrid models, which are smaller and better on mileage and fuel. He stated that the fleet vehicles are used seven days a week and run 24 hours a day.

Councillor Giesta echoed the same concerns as Councillor Pereira, adding that it's not just an issue of ATVs but oversized vehicle parking in neighborhoods and vehicles that are illegally parked. She is frustrated because if she sees oversized vehicles parked illegally while driving in her own car, how is it that the patrol cars do not.

Councillor Abreu asked if the hybrid vehicles that are to be purchased come with rebates, incentives, etc. CFO Robert Ekstrom was recognized and answered that they did not.

Councillor Gomes asked if the seven new vehicles would rotate out older vehicles. The Asst. Deputy Chief said yes. The Councillor referenced a time when new vehicles were needed, and it became an issue when they did not have the ability to make the purchase. He shared his support for this request.

Councillor Oliver stated that he believes adding hybrid vehicles will contribute to better gas consumption, mileage and normal wear and tear. He asked if it was the intent of the Department to purchase two new motorcycles as well. He was told that was correct. He asked what the timeline was for rotating out motorcycles. He was told every two to three years.

Councillor Giesta asked if all of the vehicles and motorcycles are hybrid. She was told that they would be.

Councillor Lopes recalled when motorcycles in the City were leased. He wanted to know if there was any discussion to lease and rotate them out. Mr. Ekstrom stated that he was not a fan of leasing, as he does not find it cost effective.

Councillor Morad echoed the concern that the Police Department is not doing enough to combat illegal vehicles and oversized trucks. She is tired of hearing her constituents complain about lack of policing when it comes these issues. She expressed frustration that the Department will appease the Council by ticketing oversized vehicles for a bit, and then they just stop outright.

The Chair recognized Andrew O'Leary, Superintendent for New Bedford Public Schools, to speak on the request for \$50,000.00 for pointing and windows at the Paul Rodrigues Administration Building (PRAB) and \$375,000.00 for a generator for the Taylor School.

Councillor Lopes asked why the PRAB figure of \$50,000.00 was not included in the School Department's overall budget. Mr. O'Leary stated that they come before the Council annually for Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding, and went on to say that this is not a normal maintenance issue. Councillor Lopes requested that CFO Ekstrom provide the Committee with the 15-year, one billion dollar, New Bedford Public School Building Plan.

Councillor Pereria expressed concern about repairing the PRAB when the City should be looking to sell it and move the School Administration elsewhere. The \$50,000.00 request, though for repointing, ultimately opens its way up to an actual building repair amount of \$6.1 million dollars. Councillor Pereria did speak in favor of the generator funding. He added that if approved, the School Department should reach out to Eversource to reimburse a portion of the funds, as the necessity is a direct result of work that needs to be done by Eversource.

Councillor Morad echoed Councillor Pereira's PRAB concerns and also believes the building should be sold. Mr. O'Leary stated that he believes the PRAB to be a huge asset for the School Department. It is in a central location, it houses the Family Welcoming Center, and the alternative Whaling City School is doing great things. The Councillor suggested that they wait a year to see if the Administration and the City Council are all on the same page the take another look at funding. She also expressed concern at spending \$375,000.00 of taxpayer money on a generator that is being purchased to prevent issues directly caused by Eversource.

The Chair recognized John Costa, Director of Management Information Systems (MIS), to speak on the request for \$57,225.00 for a cash management system for CFO/Treasurers.

Councillor Lopes asked how this system would differ from what is currently being used. Mr. Costa explained that it would eliminate the manual entry process and would automate the entire cash management process. The funds would be used to purchase and implement the module needed to get the program up and running. He added that there would be an annual charge of \$7,350.00 to run the program, but that this figure would be built into future budgets moving forward.

Mr. Costa also addressed the request for \$408,402.00 for MIS radio communications.

Councillor Pereira asked what these funds entailed. Mr. Costa explained that this request was made up of some cost overruns and the increased cost of the two final towers (five sites are complete but there are two left). The radio towers are to be erected on those sites. He shared that one of the sites that was going to be used was sold by the City, so MIS located another area to build upon. Councillor Pereira suggested that he would be in favor of approving the funds for one of the two towers, and revisiting the cost for the last tower at another time. He asked which area is ready to be built upon and was told the Hathaway Road location. He asked what the cost of that project was and was told \$184,134.00.

Councillor Morad asked what property was sold by the City and was told the Duchaine Boulevard property. She asked what has been spent to date on the projects and was told \$5 million, with approximately \$400,000.00 in overrun.

The Chair recognized James Marshall, Director of Cable Access, to speak on the request for \$65,035 for computer server upgrades. Mr. Marshall informed the Committee that his Department no longer needed the funds requested.

The Chair recognized Olivia Melo, Library Director, to speak on the request for \$500,000.00 for HVAC and electrical items.

Ms. Melo explained that this request was for much needed upgrades at the Lawler Library. The current HVAC system is unreliable, so much so that it failed a few times this past winter and employees actually brought in their own space heaters so they could stay warm while serving customers.

Councillor Oliver asked if the 2023 estimate of \$498,000.00 would replace the system in 2025. Ms. Melo replied that she has been assured by the Department of Facilities and Fleet Management (DFFM) that it can be replaced for \$500,000.00.

Councillor Morad shared her desire to delay the request for another year, and called for the Library to take a serious look at the number of branches they have and look to consolidate. She believes the City needs to have an honest conversation when it comes to its libraries.

The Committee recessed at 8:25 pm and readjourned at 8:35 pm.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Pereira, the Committee VOTED: To receive and place on file an informational packet submitted by Shara Rapoza, Acting Director for the Buttonwood Zoo, relating to her funding request.

Christina Connelly, Chief Operating Officer for the Administration, along with the Zoo's Veterinarian, answered questions relative to the Zoo's requests for \$54,650.00 for hospital equipment, \$60,000.00 for vehicle replacement, \$70,000.00 for the goat facility, \$116,000.00 for the animal facility, \$150,000.00 for deferred maintenance and \$180,000.00 for the black bear facility.

Councillor Pereira stated he was in favor of the hospital and deferred maintenance requests, and asked for more information on the vehicle request. He was told they currently have two vehicles on site: a water truck and a pickup truck for maintenance. This request is for a vehicle that would be outfitted to transport animals, which the Zoo does not currently have. The purchase would be a hybrid vehicle, which would include enclosures to safely transport animals. The vehicle plus the retrofit would be approximately \$40,000.00

The bear request was made because the current den is well over 100 years old and it is not proper housing. This will become a major concern the next time the Zoo is up for accreditation.

Councillor Abreu asked for more information about the goat facility. He was told this would be a new area, as the Zoo does not currently have goats. This area would also allow for a children's play center. Ms. Connelly also explained the animal facility request would supplementarily fund the animal ambassador program, finishing up the building in which there is a \$116,000.00 gap.

Councillor Morad expressed concern that most of the structure requests would only cover the cost of securing a consultant and perhaps some designs. It would not cover the full amount necessary in the future, pointing out that the entire cost of the bear den would be close to \$6 million dollars.

Councillor Lopes asked if the Zoological Society suggested that they would help raise funds for the proposed projects. He was told they were matching funds and would also move forward with fundraising efforts.

Councillor Giesta stated she did not support the facility request and commented that she is in favor of privatizing the Zoo.

Councillor Morad spoke in favor of the Zoo having a proper transportation vehicle for animals and asked if they had reached out to Animal Control to use their vehicles. She was told they have in the past, however, it has to be disinfected and the roadkill scent has to be addressed before every use. The Councillor stated that a serious conversation about the future of the Zoo needs to take place, as it places a burden on taxpayers.

The Chair recognized Scot Servis, Airport Manager, to speak on the requests for \$60,000.00 for conservation permits, \$115,000.00 for vehicle replacement, \$166,667.00 for layout updates and \$350,000.00 for airfield markings. Mr. Servis informed the Committee that the request for layout updates and vehicles were paid for by grants and that those two items could be removed from the request.

Councillor Pereira asked what the figure for the layout plans entailed. He was told that the Airport has been in conversation with the Conservation Department because currently, there is a designated area for endangered turtles. \$60,000.00 would secure a consultant to design a plan that would successfully relocate the turtles and allow the Airport to develop land nearby.

Councillor Giesta asked about the airfield markings. Mr. Servis explained that the markings get worn with snow removal and normal maintenance, and that they need to be redone.

The Chair recognized Jamie Ponte, Commissioner for the Department of Public Infrastructure (DPI), to speak on the requests for \$263,862.00 for DPI/Highway vehicle replacement and \$450,000.00 for DPI/Cemetery road maintenance.

Councillor Pereira acknowledged that the cemetery roads were in need of repair. He asked if Mr. Ponte could move ahead with some repairs if he received half of the funds requested. Mr. Ponte said yes, however, it is his intent to split the funding to pave areas of the City's three major cemeteries.

Councillor Oliver asked if the work would be scattered throughout the cemeteries. Mr. Ponte explained that the cemeteries have approximately 14 miles of road that are in poor shape, with a 50 PCI score. This request would allow for ½ mile of work to be done in each. He added that this would be a multi-phase project and would take quite a while to complete.

Councillor Lopes asked if the older F-250s were replaced with newer trucks outfitted with plows, would they be able to handle snow removal in the City. He was told that they would and added that they are the follow-up vehicles in the snow removal process. A larger truck does the heavy removal and the F-250s follow behind doing clean up.

Councillor Giesta asked what cemetery roads would have repaving done. She was told Rural, Pine Grove and Oak Grove.

Mr. Ponte also addressed the request for \$955,046.00 for DPI/Wastewater vehicle replacement. He explained that these funds would be used for a new a street-sweeper, a small front-end loader, and other vehicles. They have delayed purchasing this equipment for some time.

Councillor Lopes asked Mr. Ponte if he could make do with the John Deer 5T4, the street-sweeper and one F-350. Mr. Ponte replied that he could.

Councillor Morad asked how many street-sweepers the City currently had. She was told five, and that this new unit would replace the oldest unit. She asked why the Department needed to replace the Ford trucks. Mr. Ponte explained that they would be replacing the 2004 and 2005 units, which are in awful condition.

Mr. Ponte also addressed the DPI/Water requests for \$234,500.00 for water filter replacement, \$275,477.00 for traveling screen replacement, and \$470,173.00 for vehicle replacement.

Councillor Pereira asked Mr. Ponte of the water filter replacement and traveling screen replacement, which would be the most important to address first. He was told the traveling screen replacement was the most important.

Regarding vehicles, Mr. Ponte explained that they are tow-behind units, and one has the ability to expand pipe fittings.

Councillor Morad asked if the cost of \$170,000.00 is really the price to replace one truck. She was told that it was. She asked if the Department would be okay if they reduced the vehicle request by one. Mr. Ponte answered yes. Councillor Morad added that she feels the funds being requested should be used toward road repairs.

Mr. Ponte also addressed the Park/DPI request for vehicle replacement in the amount of \$425,728.00.

Councillor Pereira asked what items were included in this request. Mr. Ponte stated that it included a slope-mower, two turn-motors and one new gator. Councillor Pereira suggested he was inclined to allow half of the request. Mr. Ponte replied that they are in need of a slope-mower.

Councillor Lopes asked if the two gators are new vehicles or if they were to replace older vehicles, and asked how many the City owns now. Mr. Ponte stated they owned eight, but the intent is to replace the older ones. He went on to say that a few have met their useful life.

Mr. Ponte also addressed the DPI request for roadway repair in the amount of \$3,000,000.00. He informed the Committee that it was a banner year for road repairs, and that they have completed a total of six miles of road. It is his hope to do another six miles this year into next.

Councillor Abreu asked if his Department has received any of the trillion-dollar federal infrastructure bill. Mr. Ponte stated he has not seen much but believes that some may have been funneled into other City projects, however, he is not certain.

Councillor Lopes asked if DPI is working with Eversource on streets required to be resurfaced after completing a dig. Mr. Ponte answered that his Department is doing this in certain areas, especially those areas currently going through lead pipe replacement.

Councillor Morad pointed out that the \$3 million dollar figure has remained the same over the years and added that due to cost escalation, she is sure it does not go as far today as it did then. She asked why the figure has not increased, and suggested that the next time DPI comes before the Committee the amount should be increased to \$7 million dollars.

The Chair recognized Mary Rapoza, Director of Parks, Recreation and Beaches, to speak on the requests for \$360,500.00 for splash pad upgrades, \$450,450.00 for Dias Field, \$400,000.00 for basketball & tennis courts, \$500,000.00 for park path repairs and \$973,985.00 for playground upgrades.

Councillor Pereira asked if the entire amount for splash pads would be designated for upgrades and/or repairs to splash pads only. Ms. Rapoza said it would not, that they would also be able to upgrade Ashley Park. The Councillor suggested that the Clasky-Common Park and Magnet Park be addressed next year.

Ms. Rapoza explained that the playground amount would include Ft. Taber and Pine Hill. Councillor Pereria suggested that a single playground be tackled each year so that they are done properly.

Councillor Oliver spoke in favor of the request for Dias Field. Ms. Rapoza explained that a lot of work had been done to the Park with the use of ARPA funds in order to create a soccer field. The request before the Committee would allow for the repair/upgrade of the bathrooms connected to the concession stand as well as the stand itself which once restored, would be put out to bid for the operation. She stated at the very least, the building needed to be sealed to prevent further damage.

Councillor Giesta asked what the cost would be to do the bathrooms only. Ms. Rapoza did not know. The Councillor asked to be provided with that figure.

Councillor Morad asked for the park upgrades breakdown. She was told \$675,000.00 for Ft. Taber, and the remainder would go to Pine Hill Park. The path repairs are for the south end. The Councillor stated that the funds should be distributed across the City and not just in one particular section and added that she is disappointed that Brooklawn Park is constantly overlooked. Ms. Rapoza stated that the issue with Brooklawn Park is the overhead wires, which excludes the Park from a lot of available funding.

Atty. David Gerwatowski, Legal Counsel, was recognized and stated that the Committee could make changes to each request, if they wished. He went on to say that if more than one amendment is offered, much like the budget process, the Committee should vote from the highest amount to the lowest amount.

On motion by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Morad, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for EMS/Vehicle Replacement from \$980,000.00 to \$410,000.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 4, Nays 7. (Councillors Carney, Choquette, Giesta and Morad IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Oliver, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for EMS/Vehicle Replacement from \$980,000.00 to \$570,000.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 7, Nays 4. (Councillors Baptiste, Burgo, Gomes and Lopes OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Oliver and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Fire/Vehicle Replacement from \$195,476.00 to \$116,276.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 3, Nays 8. (Councillors Morad, Oliver and Pereira IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Choquette, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Fire/Vehicle Replacement from \$195,476.00 to \$79,200.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 2, Nays 9. (Councillors Carney and Choquette IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Gomes, the Committee VOTED: To Approve the amount of the request for Fire/Training Facility in the amount of \$114,000.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 10, Nays 1. (Councillor Carney OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Police/Fire Wall Replacement from \$128,841.00 to \$0.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 11, Nays 0.

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Police/Vehicle Replacement from \$538,359.00 to \$0.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 4, Nays 7. (Councillors Giesta, Morad, Oliver and Pereira IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Choquette, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Police/Vehicle Replacement from \$538,359.00 to \$160,110.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 7, Nays 4. (Councillors Abreu, Burgo, Gomes and Lopes OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Lopes, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for School/PRAB Pointing & Windows from \$50,000.00 to \$0.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 7, Nays 4. (Councillors Abreu, Baptiste, Burgo and Gomes OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for School/Taylor School Generator from \$375,000.00 to \$0.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 3, Nays 8. (Councillors Carney, Giesta and Morad IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Oliver and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for School/Taylor School Generator from \$375,000.00 to \$187,500.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 3, Nays 8. (Councillors Giesta, Morad and Oliver IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Lopes, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Cable Access/Computer Server Upgrade from \$65,035.00 to \$0.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 11, Nays 0.

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Gomes, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for MIS/Radio Communications from \$408,402.00 to \$250,000.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 10, Nays 1. (Councillor Burgo OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Oliver and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Library/HVAC & Electrical from \$500,000.00 to \$0.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 6, Nays 5. (Councillors Baptiste, Burgo, Gomes, Lopes and Pereira OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Choquette, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Zoo/Goat Facility from \$70,000.00 to \$0.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 10, Nays 1. (Councillor Burgo OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Zoo/Animal Facility from \$116,000.00 to \$0.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 7, Nays 4. (Councillors Baptiste, Burgo, Gomes and Lopes OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Pereira, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Zoo/Black Bear Facility from \$180,000.00 to \$0.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 7, Nays 4. (Councillors Baptiste, Burgo, Gomes and Lopes OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Airport/Vehicle Replacement from \$115,000.00 to \$0.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 11, Nays 0.

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Airport/Layout Updates from \$166,667.00 to \$0.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 11, Nays 0.

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Airport/Airfield Markings from \$350,000.00 to \$125,000.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 11, Nays 0.

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for DPI Cemetery/Road Improvements from \$450,000.00 to \$225,000.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 6, Nays 5. (Councillors Baptiste, Burgo, Gomes, Lopes and Oliver OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Oliver, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for DPI Wastewater/Vehicle Replacement from \$955,046.00 to \$550,000.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 2, Nays 9. (Councillors Morad and Oliver IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for DPI Wastewater/Vehicle Replacement from \$955,046.00 to \$637,053.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 4, Nays 7. (Councillors Choquette, Morad, Oliver and Pereira IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for DPI Water/Water Filter Replacement from \$234,500.00 to \$0.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 4, Nays 7. (Councillors Carney, Morad, Oliver and Pereira IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for DPI Water/Traveling Screen Replacement from \$275,477.00 to \$0.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 1, Nays 10. (Councillor Carney IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for DPI Water/Vehicle Replacement from \$470,173.00 to \$296,142.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 4, Nays 7. (Councillors Carney, Morad, Oliver and Pereira IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Oliver and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for DPI Water/Vehicle Replacement from \$470,173.00 to \$368,725.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 6, Nays 5. (Councillors Baptiste, Burgo, Carney, Gomes and Lopes OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Oliver, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Parks/Splash Pad Upgrades from \$360,500.00 to \$0.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 1, Nays 10. (Councillor Carney IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Parks/Splash Pad Upgrades from \$360,500.00 to \$175,000.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 10, Nays 1. (Councillor Burgo OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Parks/Dias Field from \$450,450.00 to \$0.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 2, Nays 9. (Councillors Carney and Morad IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Giesta and seconded by Councillor Baptiste, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Parks/Dias Field from \$450,450.00 to \$250,000.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 4, Nays 7. (Councillors Baptiste, Choquette, Giesta and Morad IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Parks/Basketball & Tennis Courts from \$400,000.00 to \$0.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 1, Nays 10. (Councillor Carney IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Burgo and seconded by Councillor Oliver, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Parks/Basketball & Tennis Courts from \$400,000.00 to \$200,000.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 2, Nays 9. (Councillors Carney and Morad IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Parks/Basketball & Tennis Courts from \$400,000.00 to \$225,000.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 8, Nays 3. (Councillors Baptiste, Gomes and Lopes OPPOSED.)

On motion by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Parks/Vehicle Replacement from \$425,728.00 to \$103,705.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 1, Nays 10. (Councillor Carney IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Oliver, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Parks/Vehicle Replacement from \$425,728.00 to \$248,000.00. This motion FAILED on a roll call vote of Yeas 4, Nays 7. (Councillors Carney, Choquette, Morad and Pereira IN FAVOR.)

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Choquette, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Parks/Vehicle Replacement from \$425,728.00 to \$350,728.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 11, Nays 0.

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Parks/Path Repairs from \$500,000.00 to \$0.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 11, Nays 0.

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Giesta, the Committee VOTED: To Amend the amount of the request for Parks/Playground Upgrades from \$973,985.00 to \$625,000.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 11, Nays 0.

On motion by Councillor Gomes and seconded by Councillor Lopes, the Committee VOTED: To AMEND the ORDER, by striking the figure \$13,494,375.00 and replacing it with \$9,320,249.00. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 11, Nays 0.

On motion by Councillor Pereira and seconded by Councillor Burgo, the Committee VOTED: To AMEND the ORDER, by inserting at the end of the first sentence “as specifically detailed in Exhibit A, attached hereto.” This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 11, Nays 0.

On motion by Councillor Baptiste and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council ADOPTION of the LOAN ORDER, AS AMENDED, as detailed in Exhibit A, that reflects the Finance Committee Vote on the various projects, appropriating \$9,320,249.00 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, replacement of capital equipment and vehicles, and roads and infrastructure improvements. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 10, Nays 1. (Councillor Carney OPPOSED.)

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Councillor Pereira made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Burgo. This meeting adjourned at 11:21 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Denis Lawrence, Jr.  
Clerk of Committees