

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

Present: Ald. Gentile (Chairman), Linsky, Salvucci, Rice, Blazar, Fuller, and Lappin

Absent: Ald. Ciccone

Also present: Maureen Lemieux (Chief Financial Officer)

#287-13 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to transfer the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) from the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Contingency Account to Inspectional Services Full-time Salaries Account and to increase the Inspectional Services Department's full-time employee level by one position.
[08/05/13 @ 1:59 PM]

ACTION: **APPROVED AS AMENDED**

NOTE: Chief Financial Officer Maureen Lemieux explained that one of the inspectors within the Inspectional Services Department is dealing with an illness and unable to work. In order to address the inspection workload the City has hired a part-time person; however, there is still a backlog of inspections. At this time, the Administration would like to increase the employee level by one position in order to make the part-time position a full-time position to address the backlog.

The Administration would also like to amend the item by transferring \$6,000 of the requested \$50,000 into temporary staff services. The \$6,000 would be used to pay for approximately seven weeks of temporary service that was needed in the Inspectional Services Department due to a vacant position, which has since been filled. The remaining \$44,000 would be transferred into the full-time salary account for the new full-time position.

There was some concern among Committee members that the \$44,000 was low for an inspector's salary. Ms. Lemieux explained that new inspectors are receiving approximately \$58,000 to \$60,000 as an annual salary. She pointed out that the position does not need to be funded for the full year, as the City is 2.5 months into the fiscal year. In addition, there are additional salary monies within the department's accounts due to vacancies within the department, which could be used to fund any additional money needed for the position's salary. Several Aldermen questioned whether the increase in the number of positions within the Inspectional Services Department was permanent. Ms. Lemieux stated that the number of positions would be evaluated when the department is fully staffed.

All other items before the Committee were held without discussion and the Committee adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard J. Gentile, Chairman