

**WESTBROOK CITY COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY MAY 6, 2019
WESTBROOK HIGH SCHOOL, ROOM 114**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Committee Chair Michael Foley.

City Councilors Present: Victor Chau (Ward 2); Michael T. Foley (At-Large); Lawrence McWilliams (Ward 5); Gary Rairdon (Ward 4, President); Brendan Rielly (Ward 1)

City Councilors Absent: Ann E. Peoples (At-Large); Anna A. Turcotte (Ward 3, Vice President)

Other City Officials Present: Jerre Bryant (City Administrator); Natalie Burns (Legal Counsel); Stephen Fields (Assistant City Administrator/Director of Human Resources); Angela Holmes (City Clerk); Suzanne Knight (Finance Director); Dena Lebeda (Tax Collector); Michael Sanphy (Mayor)

BORROWING BOND FUNDS

Committee Chair Foley gave the floor to Mr. Bryant, who presented information relating to a request for authorization to borrow bond funds through Maine Bond Bank. These bond funds would be used to finance projects identified in the Capital Improvement Program budget previously approved by City Council.

The following individuals presented questions and/or comments: Councilor Chau, Mr. Bryant, Ms. Knight, Committee Chair Foley, President Rairdon, Councilor McWilliams

Motion to refer this matter to City Council for approval.

Moved by President Rairdon, seconded by Councilor Chau.

Committee Chair Foley opened the floor for comments on the motion; none received.

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

SENIOR PROPERTY TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Committee Chair Foley gave the floor to Mr. Bryant, who presented the details of a mayoral proposal for a Senior Property Tax Assistance Program. People meeting the age, residency and income requirements would be eligible to apply for a refund of up to \$500 based upon taxes paid in the previous year. This program would essentially double the value of a similar State reimbursement program. The City budgeted \$50,000 for this program for the first year (FY 2019-2020).

The following individuals presented questions and/or comments: Councilor Chau, Mr. Bryant, Ms. Burns, Committee Chair Foley, Councilor Rielly

Councilor Rielly asked for the creation of a referral which would expand the program to include assistance for families with children.

Motion to refer this matter to City Council for approval.

Moved by President Rairdon, seconded by Councilor Rielly.

Committee Chair Foley opened the floor for comments on the motion; none received.

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 6:59pm.

Moved by President Rairdon, seconded by Councilor Rielly.

Motion carried by a show of hands. None opposed.