

Chelsea, Massachusetts December 19, 2011

A Regular meeting of the Chelsea City Council was held. The meeting was held at the Chelsea City Hall located at 500 Broadway, Chelsea, Mass. The following were in attendance: Councillor Vega-Torres, Bongiovanni, Cortell, Washington, Hatleberg, Maronski, Robinson, Barton, and Brown. Councillor Bishop arrived at 7:05 P.M. One vacancy. Council President Vega-Torres presided over the meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Public Speaking:

The public speaking portion of the meeting opened at 7:03 P.M.

No one came forward to speak and that portion of the meeting was closed at 7:04 P.M.

The minutes of the City Council meetings held on November 28, 2011 and December 5, 2011 were approved at the request of Councillor Robinson under suspension.

Communications from City Manager:

The following communication was received from City Manager Jay Ash. A motion from Councillor Hatleberg to accept and file was adopted under suspension.

The Honorable City Council
City Hall
Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150

Re: Appropriation for the Chelsea Safe and Successful Youth Initiative Program

Dear City Council:

You may recall that the City and its non-profit partners secured a significant grant award (\$900,000) from the State's Safe and Successful Youth Initiative Program to support efforts to reduce youth violence among young men in Chelsea. I am most appreciative of the Patrick/Murry Administration and especially our legislative delegation of Representatives Eugene O'Flaherty and Kathi-Anne Reinstein and Senator Sal DiDomenico for their support of our local initiative.

The award is a demonstration of the significant achievement advanced in Chelsea to develop a comprehensive violence prevention strategy aimed at reducing youth homicides and serious assaults; and our knowledge and experienced-based coordinated

intervention strategy focused on “proven risk” youth and filling gaps in direct service currently available for those youth. The goal is to support a full continuum of services for young men who are most likely to be victims or perpetrators of shooting or stabbing violence and their families, including identification, street outreach and engagement, trauma counseling, employment, education and services for families.

This is a community-informed collaborative effort led by Chelsea that anticipates additional funds to fully implement the program-from the City and from our partners-for a total project effort of \$1.6 million. In addition to the \$900,000 from the State, our community partners. Most notably Roca, will provide \$400,000 in funding. I am requesting that Council approve my request to appropriate \$300,000 in City funds to directly support the following components of the planned program.

Hire a full time Project Director-a Police Department Superior Officer-for a total estimated cost of \$125,000, including benefits. The Police Lieutenant will lead multiple community based partners. Designating this responsibility to such a high level of superior, who is reporting directly to the Police Chief, is a further indication of our commitment and priority for this program.

Provide training to Police officers in non-traditional strategies to better prepare them to participate in meetings, interventions with young men and support for families-for a total estimated cost of \$82,500.

Provide Transitional employment opportunities for up to 100 youth through the Department of Public Works Street and Sidewalk Contract services-at a total estimated cost of \$92,500.

I am recommending that Council take action to appropriate \$300,000 from the supplemental local aid distribution, with credit again going to our State officials for directing this funding along as well. As you may recall, on October 27, 2011, the Governor and the Legislature appropriated \$65M in a supplemental local aid of \$502,274. I propose that the Council appropriate \$300,000 toward the Chelsea Safe and Successful Youth Initiative Program.

As an appropriation order, this matter requires two readings. Your timely action on this appropriation request would be appreciated, as is your continued support of the youth violence prevention and intervention efforts we are together prioritizing here in Chelsea.

Sincerely,
Jay Ash
City Manager

The following communication was read from City Manager Jay Ash. A motion from Councillor Bongiovanni moved the communication to the Sub-Committee on Conference under suspension.

The Honorable City Council
City Hall

Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150

Re: PARC State Grant Program-Washington Park Renovation

Dear City Council:

You may recall that earlier this year you endorsed an application for Massachusetts Parkland Acquisition and Renovation for Communities (PARC) funds for the renovation and reprogramming of Washington Park. While the City has yet to be notified about the success of the \$500,000 PARC application, if awarded, terms of the grant program require the City to vote the full amount of the park renovation cost prior to the State imposed deadline of December 31, 2011. As you are aware, the City Council requires two hearings for voting on the appropriation of monies, and if approved, will not be able to vote until late-January. The PARC grant coordinator has been informed of this and will accept a January vote if the City has started the approval process prior to the December 31st deadline.

The PARC grant will reimburse the City 70% of the cost of the park project (design and construction), up to a maximum of \$500,000. In terms with the grant, the City, if awarded, is expected to complete the design of the park by June 30,2012, Actual construction will be allowed to begin on July 1,2013 and will be required to be completed by June 1,2013.

As the PARC grant is a reimbursement grant-the City must first expend the funds and then request reimbursement from the State-the City is required to vote the full amount of the cost of development prior to the signing of grant agreement with the State. The estimated redevelopment cost of Washington Park is \$824,465.28.

Several council orders to appropriate the funds, the full \$824,465.28, have been submitted for your consideration and approval in order to raise funds for the Washington Park Renovation:

1) City Bonds-	\$500,000.00
2) Additional State Aid-	\$104,465.28
3) CIP Transfer-	<u>\$100,000.00</u>
	\$704,465.28
FY'12CIP Park Funds	<u>\$120,000.00</u>
	\$824,465.28

Since the City is required to vote the full amount of the cost of development prior to the signing of grant agreement with the State, the approach adopted in several prior years has been to raise funds in a bond authorization but not issue (go to market), referred as authorized but unissued, and upon completion of the project, then rescind the bonds. This has been the effect of satisfying the grant requirement, but not tying up cash resources (for example, Free Cash) of the City.

Another source of funds for this project is the unanticipated Additional State Aid realized in October of \$502,274.00, wherein \$104,465.28 is proposed for appropriation to the Park project. (If Council approves the application to the Police Department and DPW of \$300,000, this will leave \$97,808.72).

Finally, in FY'10, CIP General Obligation funds of \$100,000 were raised for Highland Park. As you know, we were able to secure a PARC State Grant for this project, that together with the fund commitment from Eastern Minerals and a highly favorable bid environment where the total project cost was under the projected cost, has left these CIP funds unused. As the funds have been authorized and issued, their transfer to close the gap on Washington Park is advised.

As a footnote, Council approved in the FY'12 CIP Park funds in the amount of \$120,000 that has been reserved for Washington Park. No authorization is required.

As always, the Council's vital vote in regularly supporting the City's open space projects and grant funding has helped to transform and revitalize our park system. It is important, even more now than ever given the severe economic constraints under which we operate, to take advantage of the grant opportunity to develop our infrastructure and to meet the open space needs of our entire community.

Sincerely,
Jay Ash
City Manager

The following communication was read from City Manager Jay Ash. A motion from Councillor Bongiovanni moved the communication to the Sub-Committee on Conference, under suspension.

The Honorable City Council
City Hall
Chelsea, MA 02150

Dear City Council:

I have initiated the search for new members for the Chelsea Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. As part of my search, I convened an interview panel to help me assess the qualifications of the candidates who I judged to be worthy of interviewing for the CHA at this time. More than a dozen people had expressed an initial interest in being considered for the two appointments I am currently prepared to make. Nine candidates were offered interviews and seven were actually interviewed by the panel, which included the city solicitor, the City's housing director, a former city councilor, a resident knowledgeable in housing matters and me. As a result of that process, I am pleased to recommend the appointment of two individuals for your review and confirmation vote.

Barbara Salisbury is a 30+ year resident of Chelsea and a former State budget director and administrative dean at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. She is

currently the Chief Executive Officer of the Mass Association for the Blind and has substantial experience on board service. Tom Standish has resided in Chelsea for more than a decade and has equally as impressive credentials. Tom is a former Commissioner of the Connecticut Public Utilities Commission, a former professor and has been a consultant on numerous economics matters. He has owned and operated businesses that have employed as many as 300 people and performed community development work in Hartford, CT. Like Barbara, Tom's board service experience is substantial and both of their educational credentials are outstanding. Their respective qualifications are attached.

As part of my new process for board appointments, I have recommended that Council take two readings on any appointment recommendation. I would hope that you will follow that recommendation and take no confirmation action on these appointment requests on December 19th. It would be my hope that the two-reading process would allow councilors the time to further consider the appointments and give the general public additional time to review and comment on the potential candidates. I would certainly welcome Council's interest in holding a subcommittee meeting to discuss these appointments and meet with the candidates directly.

I remain excited about the people who are willing to serve in such an important civic capacity. The interview panel and I wrestled with narrowing the field to two, as we had many qualified candidates from whom to choose. In the end, I am confident that Barbara and Tom possess the qualifications to oversee the Chelsea Housing Authority and help it set a vision to improve its role in our community and on behalf of those who rely upon it the most. Thank you for your consideration of these appointments.

Sincerely,
Jay Ash
City Manager.

Communications:

A copy of a communication was received from the Traffic and Parking Commission regarding the meeting that was held on December 6, 2011. A motion from Councillor Robinson to accept and file was adopted under suspension.

Second Readings

The following order was introduced by Councillor Vega-Torres and read for the second time. A motion from Councillor Hatleberg to adopt by roll call passed 10-0-0-1. Voting yes were Councilors Vega-Torres, Bongiovanni, Cortell, Washington, Bishop, Hatleberg, Maronski, Robinson, Barton, and Brown. One vacancy.

Be it ORDERED by the City Council of Chelsea, as follows:

That the Council accept the Petition for the Construction, layout, alteration, etc, from the City Manager for review and, in accordance with Section 6-149 of the General Code of

the City of Chelsea, move the matter to a public hearing before the Traffic and Parking Commission.

The following order was introduced by Councillor Vega-Torres and read for the second time. A motion from Councillor Hatleberg to adopt by roll call passed 10-0-0-1. Voting yes were Councilors Vega-Torres, Bongiovanni, Cortell, Washington, Bishop, Hatleberg, Maronski, Robinson, Barton, and Brown. One vacancy.

Be it ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Chelsea, as follows:

Pursuant to Section 3-5 of the City of Chelsea Ordinances, and pursuant to Chapter 44 ss 53A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the City Council hereby accepts two gifts in the form of a donation of up to \$400,000 Dollars for the construction costs of the Everett Avenue Roadway Project and up to \$100,000 Dollars for the administration costs for the construction from Demoulas Supermarkets, Inc.

The following order was introduced by Councillor Hatleberg and read for the second time. A motion from Councillor Hatleberg to adopt by roll call passed 10-0-0-1. Voting yes were Councilors Vega-Torres, Bongiovanni, Cortell, Washington, Bishop, Hatleberg, Maronski, Robinson, Barton and Brown. One vacancy.

Be it ORDERED by the City Council of the City of Chelsea, as follows:

Pursuant to Section 3-5 of the City of Chelsea Ordinances, and pursuant to Chapter 44 ss 53A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the City Council hereby accepts the gift to the City of Chelsea Library to support the National Literacy Day project in the amount of \$150.00 from the Chelsea Kiwanis Club.

The following order was introduced by Councillor Hatleberg and read for the second time. A motion from Councillor Hatleberg to adopt by roll call passed 10-0-0-1. Voting yes were Councilors Vega-Torres, Bongiovanni, Cortell, Washington, Bishop, Hatleberg, Maronski, Robinson, Barton, and Brown. One vacancy.

ORDERED, that the Chelsea City Council authorize the appropriation of \$475,300.00 from Free Cash to the Fiscal Year 2012 School Department Salaries series, for a Fiscal Year 2012 School Department revised appropriation from \$63,941,678.00 to \$64,416,978.00 for a net increase of \$475,300.00.

The following order was introduced by Councillor Hatleberg and read for the second time. A motion from Councillor Hatleberg to adopt by roll call passed 9-1-0-1. Voting yes were Councilors Vega-Torres, Cortell, Washington, Bishop, Hatleberg, Maronski, Robinson, Barton, and Brown. Voting no was Councillor Bongiovanni. One vacancy.

ORDERED, that the Chelsea City Council authorize the appropriation of \$32,750.00 from Free Cash to the Fiscal Year 2012 Inspectional Services department-Acquisition of Vehicle-Account 0124058-584000.

New Business:

The following order was introduced by Councillor Hatleberg. Councillor Hatleberg moved the order to a second reading under suspension.

ORDERED, that the Chelsea City Council authorize the appropriation of \$104,465.25 from Additional State Aid Account #010820-469900 to the Fiscal Year 2012 Parks Construction Project-Washington Park Account 55401203-580000 series.

The following order was introduced by Councillor Hatleberg. Councillor Hatleberg moved the order to a second reading under suspension.

ORDERED, that the Chelsea City Council authorize the appropriation of \$92,500.00 from Additional State Aid Account #010820-469900 to the Fiscal Year 2012 Department of Public Works Street and Sidewalks-Professional and Technical-Account #0142252-530000.

The following order was introduced by Councillor Hatleberg. Councillor Hatleberg moved the order to a second reading under suspension.

ORDERED, that the Chelsea City Council authorize the appropriation of \$207,500.00 from Additional State Aid Account #010820-469900 to the Fiscal Year 2012 Police Department Salary-Account #0121051-510200 Salary series.

The following order was introduced by Councillor Hatleberg. Councillor Hatleberg moved the order to a second reading under suspension.

AN ORDER TO ABANDON/DISCONTINUE THE PROJECT AND TRANSFERING PROCEEDS OF A BORROWING THAT ARE NO LONGER NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT FOR WHICH THEY ARE NO LONGER NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT FOR WHICH THEY WERE ORIGINALLY BORROWED, TO PAY COSTS OF AN ALTERNATIVE CAPITAL PROJECT, AS AUTHORIZED BY CHAPTER 44, SECTION 20 OF THE GENERAL LAWS,

Ordered, that in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, the sum of \$100,000.00 representing the unexpended portion of the \$100,000.00 borrowed under the Fiscal Year 2010 Capital Improvement Plan for the purpose of field improvements at Highland Park-Account 55301002, but which is no longer needed to complete that project, is hereby abandoned/discontinued and funds transferred in the amount of \$100,000.00 to pay park construction costs for the FY 2012 Parks Construction Project-Washington Park Account 55401203-580000 series.

The following order was introduced by Councillor Hatleberg. Councillor Hatleberg moved the order to a second reading under suspension.

BE IT ORDERED; That the sum of \$500,00 is hereby appropriated to pay costs of the Washington Park Renovation Project, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the following amounts are to be raised as follows:

The City Treasurer, with the approval of the City Manager, is authorized, under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Sections 7 and 8 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, to borrow \$500,000 to pay costs from General Fund Borrowing

(\$500,000), including the payment of any and all design, engineering, construction and installation costs associated therewith, and for the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefore.

The following order was introduced by Councillor Hatleberg. Councillor Hatleberg moved the order to a second reading under suspension.

Whereas, Washington Park is a community-wide recreation asset and the renovation and reprogramming of the facility are a City priority as shown in the City's Open Space and Recreation Plan, and

Whereas, Washington Park is dedicated to park and recreation purposes under M.G.L. Chapter 45, Section 14; and

Whereas, Washington Park's restoration will greatly enhance this facility with improved infrastructure, new landscaped features, the installation of a gateway entrance, site lighting, play equipment and the rehabilitation of retaining walls and pedestrian amenities; and

Whereas, The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEAA) is offering reimbursable grants to City to support the preservation and restoration of urban parks through the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Program (301 CME 5.00); and

Whereas, The City has applied for a PARC grant in the amount of \$500,000.00 for the renovation of Washington Park; and

Whereas, The renovation of Washington Park is an estimated cost of \$824,465.28, and should the City receive the PARC grant, the grant will reimburse the City seventy percent, up to \$500,000, of the total project cost; and

Whereas, If awarded, the PARC grant reimburses the City for design and construction up to the amount of the grant, and the City is required by PARC grant guidelines to set aside the full amount of the project and certify that full funding, including the State share, is available for the project prior to reimbursement; be it therefore

Ordered, By this vote, if the City is awarded a PARC grant for the renovation of Washington Park, the City Council endorses the project for the PARC funds prepared by the Department of Planning and Development, certifies the City Manager's authority to enter into an agreement for receipt of these funds, and directs the City Manager to take any and all action necessary to accomplish the project.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul G. Casino
Clerk of the Chelsea City Council