

17TH CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

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Donald B. Sherer, Chair

Members

JOANNA M. GWOZDZIOWSKI

DAVID LUCAS

ROSANNE MCMANUS

GEORGE SESSA

MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, January 5, 2012

7:00 p.m. – Republican Caucus Room

4th Floor, Government Center

888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT 06904-2152

Present were Committee Chair D. Sherer, Committee Members R. McManus, D. Lucas, J. Gwozdzowski, G. Sessa; Commission Member D. Williams; and Peter Privitera, Director of OPM for the City of Stamford.

Chair Sherer called the meeting to order at 7:00. Mr. Sherer introduced Mr. Privitera and asked that we review budgeting and bond issues that are before the Commission.

The Committee had a discussion with Mr. Privitera with regards to the Charter sections on selling bonds; particularly why we must seek permission for selling bonds when it was previously approved in the budget.

Mr. Privitera discussed the wording on the bond approvals, and the change that was made a few years earlier. Wording had always been that the bond was to pay for projects that are “currently authorized but un-issued”. The Board of Finance passed a resolution to change the bond approvals so that each bond must list each job that was to be paid for by the money. This now requires staff to go back to the board if a project is delayed and a new project needs to be added to the bond list.

With regards to budgets, transfers and reallocation, Mr. Privitera thought Directors should be able to transfer salary dollars within a department without requiring board approvals for the transfers.

It was also requested that we define what a “department” is. As stated previously by others, the Charter does not clearly define the difference between departments, offices etc.

It was discussed that since no BOF or BOR policies can interfere with the Charter, someone needs to police new policies.

Questions were asked about current procedures and what other changes should be considered. Mr. Privitera agreed to attend a future meeting with our bond counsel to discuss changes to the bond section of the Charter.

Mr. Sherer discussed the next meeting agenda and we agreed to complete the discussion of bonds.

Ms. McManus motioned to adjourn, Ms. Gwozdzowski seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by,

Rosanne McManus

This meeting is on [video](#).