

DEPARTMENT OF CITY CLERK

CITY HALL

MAY 2, 1983

The Committee on Finance meets this day at 3:00 o'clock P.M. in Committee Room "A", City Hall.

Present: Chairwoman Brassil and Councilman Dillon, Councilwoman Fagnoli and Councilman Farmer.

Also present are City Treasurer Napolitano, City Internal Auditor Woerner and Dolores Spratt of the Retirement Office.

(Rose M. Mendonca, Clerk).

COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT JOSEPH R. PAOLINO, JR., TRANSMITTING A COMMUNICATION FROM THE PROVIDENCE PRESERVATION SOCIETY, RELATIVE TO PROPERTIES AT 69 WOOD STREET AND 66 HUDSON STREET.

Chairwoman Brassil reads a communication from Council President Paolino requesting liens against properties at 69 Wood Street and 66 Hudson Street be abated.

Council President Paolino, being present, states the Providence Preservation Society is buying houses and fixing them, it is part of their program.

On motion of Councilman Dillon, seconded by Councilman Farmer, it is voted to refer the request to the City Assessor for the amount due on liens.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE CHAPTER 1982-42, APPROVED JULY 7, 1982, BY TRANSFERRING CERTAIN SUMS OF MONEY WITHIN SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS.

Chairwoman Brassil reads a communication from John D. Mancone, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor which states that due to the City Celebrates and the Mayor's Inaugural expenses, there will be an estimated shortfall of \$30,000 in the Mayor's Contingency Fund.

Mark Dunham of the Finance Department states in his communication that \$5,000 will increase the appropriation in the Recreation Department by \$5,000 and reduce motor fuel by that amount.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE CHAPTER 1982-42, APPROVED JULY 7, 1982, BY TRANSFERRING THE SUM OF FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$450,000) DOLLARS FROM APPROPRIATION RESERVE TO SNOW REMOVAL.

Mr. Woerner states another \$200,000 is needed to cover expenses in snow removal, \$1,245,000 was spent in snow removal.

Questioned by Councilman Dillon as to whether an analysis was done relative to the expenditure of money for snow removal by other cities, Mr. Woerner states Warwick spent \$216,000 and they are comparable in size. He states he can get an analysis by storm.

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He is of the opinion 1.2 million dollars is high to spend on snow.

Chairwoman Brassil requests Mr. Woerner find out how much was spent in snow removal in Worcester and Pawtucket and to prepare a report from each vendor, by storm.

On motion of Councilman Dillon, seconded by Councilman Farmer, the Ordinance is Continued.

AN ORDINANCE IN AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 1982-60, ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A COMPENSATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE AND REPEALING CHAPTER 1982-43," APPROVED DECEMBER 10, 1982, RELATIVE TO DEPUTY CLERK, PROVIDENCE MUNICIPAL COURT.

On motion of Councilman Dillon, seconded by Councilwoman Fagnoli and Councilman Farmer, the foregoing Ordinances is Continued as the request should be submitted in the new budget.

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A TAX EXEMPTION OF \$3,000.00 TO OWNERS OF MOTOR VEHICLES EQUIPPED FOR THE HANDI-CAPPED.

On motion of Councilman Farmer, seconded by Councilwoman Fagnoli, the foregoing Ordinance is Continued.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY TREASURER, ACTING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, TO BORROW FROM TIME TO TIME, IN SUCH SUMS AS MAY BE NECESSARY, NOT EXCEEDING ONE MILLION, TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,269,000.00) TO BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR CARRYING OUT THE OFFICIAL REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE OLNEYVILLE SQUARE REVITALIZATION PROJECT.

Councilman Dillon is undecided as to the manner in which the Members should handle the budgets for the projects inasmuch as the State has planned some projects that are also covered under the City's Revitalization Projects.

Councilman Farmer questions as to whether the State money is for streets.

Chairwoman Brassil responds streets are figured into the Resolution also.

City Treasurer Napolitano explains the procedure for borrowing of money. There is a need to grant the authority as it may be needed for short term borrowing. Any questions regarding the money should be answered prior to doing this.

Councilman Farmer questions as to why it is needed now as compared to months from now.

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City Treasurer Napolitano states it is a lack of coordination, he has several sitting on his desk. It is just procedure. It should not come forward until they go out to borrow.

Councilman Dillon states if they want to award a tax increase, they may want to avoid some of this borrowing.

The Resolution is Continued until all Resolutions pertaining to borrowing have been submitted to Director of Planning and Urban Development Bernstein will be invited to appear before the Committee.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO URGE PASSAGE OF AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT IN AMENDMENT OF PARAGRAPH 7, SECTION 8 OF CHAPTER 489 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1923, ENTITLED: 'AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE RETIREMENT OF THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE', AS AMENDED, RELATIVE TO CREDITABLE SERVICE". (DRAFT OF ACT APPENDED).

Chairwoman Brassil explains the Act would allow City Employees who previously worked for the State, to buy their State time in the City's pension system.

Mrs. Spratt is of the opinion that perhaps a ten year limit should be inserted into the Act and Resolution.

She is of the opinion this would mean ten or fifteen people would be eligible. She knows of ten people who would apply and once the Act is passed by the General Assembly, she thinks approximately five or ten more would apply.

The impact cost to the Retirement system would be minimal. The City charges interest on the money.

Councilman Farmer is of the opinion there has to be an impact on the unfunded liability, they pay 8% of their compensation earnable in the first year of creditable service multiplied by the number of years and fraction thereof in state service together with interest at an annual rate of four percentum per annum compounded.

Mrs. Spratt states they have six months to take advantage of this.

Councilman Farmer cannot see passing legislation in the City without knowing the amount of money.

City Treasurer Napolitano states this is something that has been done in the past, the Committee is not setting a precedent and usually the bill has a time limit on it. They are not talking about a lot of money.

Councilman Farmer states he is not prepared to support or vote for the Resolution.

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Mrs. Spratt is requested to see that a Resolution and Act is submitted next year based on the salaries earned, plus the 8% and interest.

On motion of Councilman Farmer, seconded by Councilman Dillon, the Resolution is Continued.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO URGE PASSAGE OF AN ACT ENTITLED: AN ACT IN AMENDMENT OF SECTION 9 OF CHAPTER 489 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1923 AS AMENDED, ENTITLED: 'AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE RETIREMENT OF THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE': RELATIVE TO PRE-SUMPTIONS IN THE EVENT OF THE DECEASE OF PROVIDENCE POLICE OFFICERS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE BARGAINING UNIT FROM HEART ATTACK OR HYPERTENSION". (DRAFT OF ACT APPENDED).

Chairwoman Brassil states the foregoing is in the Union Contract for the Police Department, Class B employees. It has been in the contract for a number of years.

Chairwoman Brassil reads the opinion from the Law Department and Councilman Farmer reads the accompanying Act to the Members.

Ensuing a discussion it is voted, on motion of Councilman Farmer, seconded by Councilman Dillon to approve the Resolution and transmit same to the City Council with recommendation of Adoption.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO URGE PASSAGE OF AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT IN AMENDMENT OF SECTION 9 OF CHAPTER 489 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1923, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED 'AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE RETIREMENT OF THE EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE' RELATIVE TO MANDATORY AGE OF RETIREMENT". (DRAFT OF ACT APPENDED).

Chairwoman Brassil states the Resolution was transmitted to the City Solicitor for an opinion and as of this date a response has not been received.

The Resolution is Continued until an opinion is received from the Law Department.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY COLLECTOR TO ABANDON AS UNCOLLECTIBLE CERTAIN TAXES ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT OXFORD STREET AND PRAIRIE AVENUE, OWNED BY PEOPLE'S REDEVELOPMENT CORP.

The foregoing Resolution is Continued.

Adjournment. On motion of Councilman Dillon, seconded by Councilwoman Fagnoli the Committee adjourns at 4:40 o'clock P.M.

Copied *JMA*

Compared *JMA*

Rose M. Mendonca
Clerk