



City of Methuen, Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

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City Council Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, Jan 25, 2023

Meeting held VIA ZOOM

- 1) 6:00PM Meeting called to order by Committee Chair Saba
- 2) Roll Call Councilors Finocchiaro, Beauregard and Saba present. Also present were CAFO Duprey and Mayor Perry.
- 3) Agenda acceptance motion by Councilor Beauregard, Second by Finocchiaro. Yes unanimous.
- 4) Public Participation – None
- 5) Acceptance of previous meeting minutes: December 28 ,2022, motion by Clr Beauregard, second by Clr Saba - Approved 3-0
- 6) The CAFO updated the committee and answered questions regarding the solar farms.
 - a) Councilor Finocchiaro asked what the solar panels at the transfer station are generating for funds to the city. CAFO reported that in 2022 from the two solar farms (Landfill in Methuen but not owned by Methuen and Brockelman farm owned by Lancaster, MA), the City received \$1.2M in solar credits and paid just under \$.5M to purchase the credits, leaving a net savings of \$717,000.00 to offset our electric bills. The goal is to not pay anything for electricity by using solar credits. Production is up this year.
 - b) City is researching expanding solar panels to city and school owned buildings.
 - c) All agreed maintenance costs are included in the cost of purchasing the credits.
 - d) We purchase the solar credits for a smaller amount which can be used for a larger amount to offset the electricity bills.
 - e) CAFO recommended that we invite Joe Cosgrove (energy manager) to the next meeting.
- 7) CAFO provided an ARPA update
 - City completed the \$8M purchase of 9 Branch Street, also obligated contract for Burnham road and a couple of security contract for the schools. Otherwise nothing else has changed.
 - City is waiting for an updated feasibility study of the new DPW building to include other potential locations in the city and a Phase2 environmental study.
- 8) Next Meeting is schedule for Wednesday, February , 22, 2023 at 6:00PM
- 9) Meeting adjourned Motion Clr Beauregard, Second Clr. Finnochiaro- Unanimous 6:45PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Councilor Saba