



City Council

Special Meeting

~ Agenda ~

36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103
<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

Anthony I. Wilson
413-787-6096

Monday, November 20, 2017

5:15 PM

Springfield City Hall -- Council Chambers

Call to Order

5:15 PM Meeting called to order on November 20, 2017 at Springfield City Hall -- Council Chambers, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA.

On motion for Reconsideration

1. Order (ID # 4295)

Bond Authorization - Riverfront Park Redevelopment - \$1,600,000

HISTORY:

11/13/17 **City Council** **DEFEATED**

Lindsay Hackett, Budget Director, spoke in favor of the order

Peter Garvey, Capital Asset Management, spoke in favor of the order.

Pat Sullivan, Director of Parks, spoke in favor of the Order.

President Ramos stepped off the podium to speak in opposition to the bond.

Motion to Committee by Councilor Ramos, seconded by Councilor Gomez. Motion to Committee failed 6 to 7.

Due to a procedural misstep the council moved to the next item on the agenda. After the council finished the rest of agenda, the returned to this matter.

Second Motion to Committee by Councilor Ramos, seconded by Councilor Fenton. Motion to Committee failed 6 to 7.

The Council voted unanimously to suspend Rule 19.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CAFO Cert - Bond Order - Riverfront Park (PDF)

New Business

2. Order (ID # 4319)

Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant - 400,000 Match Required



City Council

DEFEATED

Meeting: 11/20/17 05:15 PM

Initiator: Jennifer Whisher

Sponsors: Mayor Domenic J. Sarno

DOC ID: 4295

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Bond Authorization - Riverfront Park Redevelopment - \$1,600,000 (Mayor Sarno)

BOND ORDER TO PAY FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF RIVERFRONT PARK

WHEREAS, The City of Springfield (“the City”) is requesting approval of an appropriation in the amount of One Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,600,000) to pay the costs of reconstructing and redeveloping Riverfront Park in downtown Springfield; and after reviewing this order, the Chief Administrative and Financial Officer has certified to the Mayor and City Council, that in his professional opinion, after an evaluation of all pertinent financial information reasonably available, the City’s financial resources and revenues are and will continue to be adequate to support the proposed expenditures and obligations involved in the appropriation and borrowing, without a detrimental impact on the continuous provision of the existing level of municipal services, in accordance with Section 2(f) of Chapter 656 of the Acts of 1989, as added by Section 1 of Chapter 468 of the Acts of 2008.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED: That the City hereby appropriates the sum of \$1,600,000 to pay the costs of reconstructing and redeveloping Riverfront Park, including the payment of any and all other costs incidental or related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the City Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to Chapter 44 of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the City therefore; that the Mayor is authorized to apply for any federal or state aid available for the project, and that the Mayor is authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out this project; and any premium received by the City upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount; and the Treasurer is authorized to file an application with the appropriate officials of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts (the “Commonwealth”) to qualify under Chapter 44A of the General Laws any and all bonds of the City authorized by this Order, and to provide such information and execute such documents as such officials of the Commonwealth may require in connection therewith.

City of Springfield
36 Court Street
Springfield, MA 01103



Division of Administration
and Finance

To: Springfield City Council
From: TJ Plante, Chief Administrative & Financial Officer
Date: November 6, 2017
Re: Order for Council Meeting – 11/13/2017
Cc: Mayor Sarno

Purpose: The purpose of this memo is to provide an explanation of the order sponsored by the Mayor for the November 13, 2017 Council meeting, which authorizes the City to pay \$1,600,000 for the redevelopment of Riverfront Park in downtown Springfield.

Background: On October 3, 2016, the City Council accepted a grant of \$1,000,000 from MGM in preparation for the MGM Casino opening in the fall of 2018. These funds were outlined in the Host Community Agreement to be used for enhancing the accessibility and appearance of Riverfront Park. Additionally, the City has applied for a \$400,000 FY18 Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities Grant (“PARC”) to continue the renovations to Riverfront Park. While the FY18 PARC Grants have not yet been awarded, the City is committing \$1,600,000 as its share of the proposed \$3,000,000 project.

CAFO Certification: This memorandum will confirm that in my professional opinion, as the Chief Administrative and Financial Officer, after an evaluation of all pertinent financial information reasonably available, that the City's financial resources and revenues are and will continue to be adequate to support the proposed expenditures and obligations involved in this City Council Order, without a detrimental impact on the continuous provision of the existing level of municipal services, in accordance with Section 2(f) of Chapter 656 of the Acts of 1989, as added by Section 1 of Chapter 468 of the Acts of 2008.

This certification is made in accordance with Section 2(f) of Chapter 656 of the Acts of 1989, as added by Section 1 of Chapter 468 of the Acts of 2008.

Attachment: CAFO Cert - Bond Order - Riverfront Park (4295 : Bond Authorization - Riverfront Park Redevelopment - \$1,600,000)



City Council

SCHEDULED

Meeting: 11/20/17 05:15 PM
Initiator: Heather Potito
Sponsors: Mayor Domenic J. Sarno
DOC ID: 4319

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Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Grant - 400,000 Match Required (Mayor Sarno)

THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD

In the City Council

November 20, 2017

APPROPRIATION ORDER AND AUTHORIZATION TO FILE, AND ACCEPT AND EXPEND GRANTS WITH AND FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASS., EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS, FOR THE "PARKLAND ACQUISITIONS AND RENOVATIONS FOR COMMUNITIES" GRANT PROGRAM, FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO RIVERFRONT PARK

- Whereas: Riverfront Park is considered a community-wide asset and the preservation and improvements to this facility are in line with the City's priorities to provide recreational opportunities for all of its residents as evidenced in the City's most recent Open Space and Recreation Plan ("Plan"); and
- Whereas: Riverfront Park is dedicated to park and recreation purposes under M.G.L. Chapter 45, Section 3; and
- Whereas: Riverfront Park's ultimate restoration, guided in principal by the Plan, will greatly enhance this facility with improved infrastructure such as enhanced playing fields, ADA accessibility, accessible playground and splash pad, picnic and game tables, improved lighting, landscaping and renovations to Festival Field, in addition to increasing the city's open space inventory by 12 acres; and
- Whereas: The main focus of the design is to increase open space and improve the current conditions to be used as public playing fields and park; and
- Whereas: The overall improvements to this park have been put on hold due to fiscal budget constraints preventing the City from proceeding with the improvements as a single comprehensive project; and
- Whereas: The project was instead viewed as a series of phases, to be implemented over time, by priority, as fiscal resources were available, with the intention of securing grant funding, when and if available, to assist in this effort; and
- Whereas: The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) are providing reimbursable grants to cities and towns to support the preservation and restoration of urban parks through the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities grant program (301 CMR 5.00); and

- Whereas: The Riverfront Park Improvement project will cost \$3M, (Three Million Dollars), and the PARC program requires the City to appropriate the full amount of the project costs; and
- Whereas: The City has committed \$1.6M (One Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars) in municipal funds, with \$1M (One Million Dollars) committed by the MGM Springfield Casino, and it is expected that the additional \$400,000 (Four Hundred Thousand Dollars) will be provided by The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities grant program, for the first phase of the project; and
- Whereas: The Chief Administrative and Financial Officer has certified that the City's financial resources and revenues are and will continue to be adequate to support the proposed expenditures and obligations involved in this City Council Order appropriating funds for the Project, and expending the grant funds once received, without a detrimental impact on the continuous provision of the existing level of municipal services, in accordance with Section 2(f) of Chapter 656 of the Acts of 1989, as added by Section 1 of Chapter 468 of the Acts of 2008; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

- 1) That the Mayor and the City's Department of Parks, Buildings and Recreation Management are hereby authorized to file applications for and accept grants from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and upon receipt, to expend such grants for the purposes of the grants pursuant to Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 44, sec. 53A, including a grant in the amount of Four-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) for Riverfront Park from the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities grant program;
- 2) That the City Council hereby appropriates the sum of One Million Six Hundred Thousand Dollars(\$1,600,000) for the Riverfront Park Project from the following account, pursuant to Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 44, sec. 32: (33321930-580800-99717);
- 3) That the City Council hereby appropriates the sum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) for the Riverfront Park Project from the following account, pursuant to Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 44, sec. 32: (29971930-580800-99717);
- 4) That the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the terms, purposes, and conditions of the grant, to be administered by the City's Department of Parks, Buildings and Recreation Management; Department, including entering into contracts; and
- 5) That this Order and Authorization shall take effect upon its passage, subject to the terms and conditions stated herein.