

## FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES Wednesday, May 15, 2019 1:00 P.M.

Present: Committee Members: Chairperson, Ashby Foote, Vice Chair; Aaron Banks; Melvin Priester, Jr., Council President; Vice President, Virgi Lindsay and De'Keither Stamps. Directors: Dr. Robert Blaine, Chief Administrative Officer; Michelle Battee-Day, Assistant City Clerk and Angela Harris, Deputy City Clerk.

Absent: Kenneth I. Stokes and Charles H. Tillman.

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The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Ashby Foote.

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**DISCUSSION: FUND 30** (WATER/SEWER): Chairperson Foote recognized **President Priester** who stated that within conversation with the newly contracted legal counsel of Lightfoot, Franklin & White, it was advisable that the Council go into Executive Session to discuss a matter of potential litigation. **President Priester** recognized Attorney **Brian Boyle** of Lightfoot, Franklin & White PLLC, who stated that his firm was retained to evaluate legal issues pertaining to the Siemens water system project. Attorney Boyle recommended that the Council go into Closed Session to evaluate any financial issues that might impact their investigation.

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**President Priester** moved, seconded by **Council Member Banks** to go into Executive Session to discuss matters relating to litigation. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas- Banks, Foote, Lindsay and Priester. Nays- None. Absent- Stamps, Stokes and Tillman.

**Chairperson Foote** announced to the public that the Council voted to go into Executive Session to discuss matters relating to litigation.

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**Council Member Banks** moved, seconded by **President Priester** to come out of Executive Session. The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas- Banks, Foote, Lindsay, Priester and Stamps. Nays- None. Absent- Stokes and Tillman.

**Note: Council Member Stamps** arrived to the meeting during Executive Session.



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**Chairperson Foote** announced to the public that the Council voted to come out of Executive Session and no action was taken. Chairperson Foote stated that legal advice was received from Lightfoot, Franklin & White, PLLC.

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**Chairperson Foote** resumed the discussion of Fund 30 and requested that **Robert Miller**, Director of Public Works provided an update on Fund 30. **Director Miller** stated the following:

- The Public Works Department is trying to keep the water/sewer system operating, meeting all the regulatory requirements, to pay all operation & maintenance expenses and to pay all debt service.
- Upon completion of the above, the Public Works Department would like to restore the reserve balances that's been depleted, pay back the money borrowed from the General Fund, pay back money borrowed from the Municipal Sales tax collections and restart back portions of the Consent Compliance Program that was suspended due to a lack of funding.
- The Water/Sewer Department took detailed data produced from Cayenta and transferred to a spreadsheet report.

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**President Priester** requested that a five (5) minute recess be taken to allow the Finance Department, Public Works and Legal Counsel from Lightfoot, Franklin and White, PLLC to review the contents of said report.

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Thereafter, Chairperson Foote recessed the meeting for five (5) minutes.

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Chairperson Foote reconvened the meeting.

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**Chairperson Foote** recognized **Robert Miller**, Director of Public Works, who stated that he would meet with the Finance Department to provide a more detailed and accurate financial report to the Council.

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There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting stood adjourned at 2:14 p.m.