

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Held in Room 1E of the Legislative Office Building on April 7, 2006.

PRESENT: Lieutenant Governor Kevin Sullivan
Mark Ojakian, Deputy Comptroller
Howard Rifkin, Deputy Treasurer
Senator Toni Harp
Representative Peter Tercyak
Representative Douglas McCrory
Robert L. Genuario, Secretary and Clerk,
Office of Policy & Management
John Bacewicz, Executive Budget Officer, Office of
Policy & Management, Budget and Financial Management Division

ABSENT: Governor M. Jodi Rell
Representative Arthur O'Neill
Senator David Cappiello
Representative Denise Merrill

Lieutenant Governor Sullivan called the meeting to order at 11:30 A.M.

1. It was voted to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 2, 2006.
2. It was asked that Item 2006-24 be withdrawn from the agenda. Item 2006-24 was withdrawn from the agenda.
3. The following new transactions were approved by the Committee:

FAC 2006-18 – Division of Criminal Justice – A total transfer of \$421,400 from Personal Services, Expert Witnesses and Medicaid Fraud Control to Other Expenses, Training and Education and Forensic Sex Evidence Exams accounts to meet current year's expenditures.

There was a discussion on how the FAC transfers for energy costs relate to the OPM Energy Contingency funds requested in the deficiency bill and do energy needs exceed the amount requested in the deficiency bill. Secretary Genuario explained that yes, energy needs exceed the amount requested in the deficiency bill. Where additional lapsing funds are available, agencies will transfer funds to offset the increased energy costs, thereby reducing the required deficiency.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2006-19 – Military Department – A transfer of \$265,000 from Personal Services to Other Expenses to cover end of year expenditures.

There was no discussion on this item. This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2006-20 – Office of the Healthcare Advocate – A total transfer of \$30,160 from Indirect Overhead and Personal Services to Other Expenses to cover expenditures.

There was no discussion on this item. This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2006-21 – Department of Mental Retardation – A transfer of \$2,460,864 from Personal Services to Other Expenses and Clinical Services to provide the necessary cash flow that will allow payments of goods and services purchased by the Department.

The committee had several questions concerning the implications this planned personal services lapse had on services provided by DMR. Commissioner O'Meara explained that this lapse was the result of delays inherent in the hiring process and the natural turnover that exists in any large agency and assured the committee that this will have no long term effect on staffing levels or services.

Representative Tercyak voted no on this item. This item was passed by majority vote.

FAC 2006-22 – Department of Transportation – A transfer of \$5,000,000 from Personal Services to Other Expenses to cover an anticipated shortfall in Other Expenses.

Representative Tercyak expressed concern that a recent court ruling had indicated that an improper mixture of salt/sand had contributed to a fatal accident affecting Yale students. Deputy Commissioner Bard stated that there was not a court ruling but a study has determined that calcium chloride mixture can be more effective under certain weather conditions. DOT will be retrofitting trucks to accommodate the mixture

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

FAC 2006-23 – Department of Motor Vehicles – To increase the agency's position count by 9 from 631 to 640 as a result of the Governor's mandate to hire 9 commercial vehicle safety inspectors.

Representative Tercyak stated he hoped the 9 Inspectors would not be used only in weigh stations but statewide.

This item was unanimously approved by the Committee.

3. The meeting was then adjourned at 12:10 P.M.

Robert L. Genuario
Clerk