

January 24, 2022

The meeting of the Board of Finance was called to order at 3:00 p.m. via Webex.

Present: Daniel Ramos, Deputy City Administrator (*in lieu of Mayor*)
Bill Henry, Comptroller and Member
Frederick Meier, Member
Arnold Williams, Member
Jennell Rogers, Chief, Bureau of Treasury Management and Clerk to the Board of Finance

Absent: Honorable Brandon M. Scott, Mayor and President

Also Present: Benedict Richardson, Treasury Management
Evelyn Alston, Treasury Management
Joann Levin, Law Dept.
Julie Day, DPW
Aaron Moore, DPW

MINUTES

Daniel Ramos requested the Board to review the minutes from the meeting of December 20, 2021. The minutes were approved on the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Meier.

SECURITY TRANSACTIONS

Ms. Rogers briefed the Board on the investment activity for this period noting that total securities purchased since the last Board of Finance meeting were \$375,000,000 and redemptions totaled \$335,000,000.

Security transactions since the meeting December 20, 2021 were approved on the motion of Mr. Meier, seconded by Mr. Williams. (Appendix I)

MARK TO MARKET VALUATION OF SWAP PORTFOLIO

Ms. Rogers presented the Mark to Market Valuation Report as of December 31, 2021 with a notional amount of \$136,055,000. The fair market value of the swap portfolio increased slightly from (\$20,477,323) to (\$20,856,912). The ten-year Treasury rate increased from 1.43% to 1.94%. As of the date of this report, there was no collateral posted.

The Board accepted the report. (Appendix II)

WATER4ALL BANK ACCOUNT

Ms. Rogers requested the Board to consider and approve the enclosed resolution authorizing the opening of a Department of Public Works/Water4All checking account with Chase Bank, and establish signatories for the account.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) requests authorization to establish an account for the Water4All program to provide subsidies to program participants. The "For the Benefit of" account will be accessed by Edquity, Inc. and/or its partner Interworks, to establish and

supplement funding on debit cards which will be provided to program participants for distribution of funds eligible through the Water4All program.

The Water4All water affordability discount program was created through the Water Accountability & Equity Act (CCB 18-307, 20-0626) and can be found in Article 24 of the City Charter. The program provides a direct discount on established water billing accounts. It also provides a subsidy to tenants who are not account holders but, instead, receive their water through a central meter held in account by a landlord or property owner. It is these tenants who will receive their subsidy via pre-loaded bank cards.

The account shall be funded with an initial deposit of \$100,000 and replenished as needed. The resolution authorizes DPW to open an account with Chase Bank in the name of the Mayor of City Council of Baltimore– Department of Public Works – Water4All Program. The authorized signatories shall be the DPW Director and Fiscal Officer. The Department also shall be responsible for identifying a qualified non-signatory to reconcile the account on a monthly basis. The Bureau of Treasury Management shall notify the Department of Audits of the establishment of this account.

Aaron Moore, DPW, was present to respond to questions from Board members. Mr. Williams asked about the controls that will be established around the account and the debit cards. Mr. Moore stated that applicants must meet income requirements that are verified by the Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success and must submit a lease that states the amount paid for water use on a monthly basis. Additionally, restrictions will be placed on the debit cards to govern what they may be used to purchase. Mr. Williams asked if Audits will have the ability to periodically review the activity of the account. Mr. Moore stated that Audits will have the ability to review the account and the account will be reconciled monthly. Comptroller Henry asked why a separate bank account is needed for this program rather than having funds separated administratively. Mr. Moore responded that the vendor that is used to provide the debit cards will need to make withdrawals from Chase Bank in order to apply the subsidy amounts to the debit cards.

The resolution authorizing the opening of a DPW/Water4All checking account was approved on the motion of Mr. Meier, seconded by Mr. Williams.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Rogers advised Board members that she would like to use a portion of February's meeting to brief them on the progress of the projects that are being funded by the Harbor Point TIF. The final financing for this TIF is expected to be on the BOF meeting agenda for March. She would like members to have the opportunity to ask questions regarding the project so that the meeting to be held in March can focus primarily on the financing aspect. Mr. Meier asked the amount of the TIF. Ms. Rogers stated that she does not presently have that information but will send it to Board members. Comptroller Henry inquired if the project would use all the authorization and how much is available. She also advised the Board that she can provide the amount available but the issuance would not exceed debt authorized by the ordinance and limited to eligible costs.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:13 pm.

Jennell Rogers
Clerk to the Board of Finance