# City of Salem, Massachusetts, Finance Department Fiscal Policy

# No. 2008-04

**SUBJECT:** Donation and Gift Accounts

Effective Date: March 18, 2008 - Revised 6-15-09

#### **POLICY**

All City gifts and donations \$1,000.00 or more must be accepted by the Mayor and voted by the City Council through a council order request. All School Department gifts and donations \$1,000.00 or more must be accepted and voted by the School Committee.

Gift and donation expenditures must be administered in accordance with MGL CH44 § 53A (see attached).

#### PROCEDURES FOR DEPARTMENTS

- 1. All donations and gifts of \$1,000.00 or more must be presented to the Mayor and City Council/School Committee for their acceptance.
- 2. City Departments should forward the request (step #3 below) to the Assistant Finance Director for processing to Mayor/City Council.
- 3. A letter should be submitted to the Mayor and City Council/School Committee requesting the donation be accepted and include the amount of the donation, Fund Number, Fund Name, and MUNIS Revenue Org/Object into which the money will be deposited.
- 4. Any restrictions as to the expenditures of such funds shall accompany the request to the Mayor and City Council/School Committee.
- 5. If no restrictions exist, the memo to the Mayor & City Council/School Committee should specify that there are none.
- 6. Once the City Council/School Committee has voted acceptance of the donation, a copy of the vote/council order shall be attached to the 9/10 form. The check, 9/10 form and vote should then be submitted to the Treasurer's Office for deposit and processing.
- 7. All gifts and donations should ONLY be deposited into an existing DONATION/GIFT Special Revenue Fund established by City council in accordance with MGL CH44 § 53A

and in accordance to any special conditions or terms.

- 8. If no gift/donation fund exists for the department, the council must approve the acceptance of the gift/donation and establish a gift/donation fund for that department.
- 9. A copy of the Vote/Council Order and memo should be forwarded to the Assistant Finance Director, and the Fund number or revenue org/object should be written on ALL documents.
- 10. The Salem Education Fund and Taxpayer Scholarship funds are trust funds and therefore exempt from this policy.

## PROCEDURES FOR TREASURER'S OFFICE

- 1. The Treasurer's office will review all 9/10 forms for Gifts & Donations and ensure that a Council Order/School Committee vote accompanies all deposits for \$1,000.00 or more.
- 2. The Treasurer's office shall ensure that the money is booked only to a Donation Fund established by the Finance Department.

## PROCEDURES FOR FINANCE DEPARTMENT

1. The Finance office will file the vote/council order and memo in the appropriate Donation Fund folder.

Finance Director

Date

4/23/09