

Finance Committee & Selectboard

Joint Meeting via Zoom

June 11, 2020

Town Offices

Finance Committee Attendees: Paul Antaya, Dan Kennedy, Jim Kirkendall, Fred Baron, Tom Mahar, and Bob Fydenkevez; Also present via Zoom was Selectboard members, Joyce Palmer Fortune; Town Administrator Brian Domina and Administrative Assistant, Amy Schrader.

The meeting was opened at 6:05 pm by the Chairperson Paul Antaya.

Discuss and vote approve meeting minutes of June 9, 2020.

The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes from June 9, 2020. All in favor.

Roll call vote: Tom – yes, Jim – yes, Paul – yes, Fred Baron – yes, Bob – yes, and Dan -yes.

Discuss and vote on fiscal year 2021 operating budgets, capital items and miscellaneous spending articles for the upcoming Annual Town Meeting.

The Committee reviewed the General Government budget (draft) for FY21 with specific attention to the Town Clerk, Town Accountant, and Tax Takings. A motion was made to accept the FY21 General Government budget. Motion was seconded. All in favor. Roll call vote: Tom – yes, Jim – yes, Paul – yes, Fred Baron – yes, Bob – yes, and Dan -yes.

The Committee reviewed the Cultural and Recreation Services budget with attention to South County Senior Center previous/current operating budget and Tri-Town Beach budget. The Committee expressed concern due to the lack of budget/utilization information provided by the South County Senior Center. The Committee had a lengthy discussion regarding the Tri-Town Beach closure for the year, potential 1/3 salary removal for FY21, and decrease/level funding budget options. After much discussion, a motion was made to fund the Tri Town Beach District for \$4,131.26. Motion was seconded. All in favor. Roll call vote: Tom – yes, Jim – yes, Paul – yes, Fred Baron – yes, Bob – yes, and Dan -yes.

The Committee had a lengthy discussion regarding South County Senior Center's 23% budget increase, community outreach efforts, and the impact of COVID19 on the Center. Brian stated that the increase is due to the South County Senior Center Director going to a full-time position. The Committee questioned the need for a full-time Senior Center Director position. After much discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to accept the South County Senior Center's FY21 budget. A motion was made to accept the FY21 Cultural and Recreation Services budget as previously amended. Roll call vote: Tom – yes, Jim – yes, Paul – yes, Fred Baron – yes, Bob – yes, and Dan -yes.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the Public Health FY21 budget with specific attention to the tipping fees associated with the Transfer Station. The Committee unanimously voted to recommend the FY21 Public Health budget. Roll call vote: Tom – yes, Jim – yes, Paul – yes, Fred Baron – yes, Bob – yes, and Dan -yes.

The Committee unanimously voted to recommend the FY21 Public Safety budget. Roll call vote: Tom – yes, Jim – yes, Paul – yes, Fred Baron – yes, Bob – yes, and Dan -yes.

Keith Bardwell (Highway and Building Superintendent) stated that there are two employees receiving salary adjustments. The Committee had a discussion regarding the Personnel Committee’s salary adjustment recommendations and the long-term financial impact of the Personnel Committee’s recommendations. Brian informed the Committee that the Water Commissioners met this morning and decided to not contribute \$10,000 to the purchase of the Highway Department’s excavator. Keith Bardwell (Highway and Building Superintendent) stated that he can use more Chapter 90 funds to make up the difference. The Committee unanimously voted to recommend the FY21 Public Works budget. Roll call vote: Tom – yes, Jim – yes, Paul – yes, Fred Baron – yes, Bob – yes, and Dan -yes.

The Committee reviewed FY21 Insurance & Benefits budget, Unclassified budget, and Debt budget. After much review and discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend the FY21 Insurance & Benefits budget, Unclassified budget, and Debt budget. Roll call vote: Tom – yes, Jim – yes, Paul – yes, Fred Baron – yes, Bob – yes, and Dan -yes.

Brian read the warrant articles for the Annual Town Meeting. The Committee discussed the warrant articles with specific attention to article 12, article 19, article 20, Frontier Regional excess and deficiency expenditures, article 30, and article 31. The Finance Committee decided to not take a position on the CPA articles. A motion was made and seconded to recommend the Annual Town Meeting warrant articles that pertain to the finances of the Town (except for the CPA articles). Vote was unanimous. All in favor. Roll call vote: Tom – yes, Jim – yes, Paul – yes, Fred Baron – yes, Bob – yes, and Dan -yes.

Items not anticipated within forty-eight (48) hours of the meeting

none

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Domina, Town Administrator

Document List on File in the Selectboard Office

FY21 Operating Enterprise Funds Budget (draft)