

## Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday July 9, 2019 in Selectmen's Meeting Room, Town Hall

Members Present: Dorsey (Chair), Fletcher, Sullivan, Rosenberg, Hartmann, Goldman, McNerney

Members Absent: Hilario

Others Present: Ronald Mendes (minutes taker & Asst Town Administrator)

Called to order 7:05pm

Mr. Dorsey called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

There was some discussion regarding the supplemental budget transfers. Mr. Mendes explained the rationale behind the need for the transfers, and upon MOTION by Sullivan, SECOND by Rosenberg, it was voted to approve the recommended transfers in the amount of \$10,120.00.

The next item on the agenda was the issue of the status of the Middle School. Mr. Mendes explained that he is working on the RFQ to seek a consultant this week. Some recent staffing changes have sidelined his ability to finalize the RFQ at this time, which Mr. Mendes explained. Mr. Mendes assured the committee that the RFQ will be drafted this week and we are aiming to have the final report from the consultant around end of October, beginning of November in order to be able to submit an application for an accelerated repair grant from the MSBA by February 1<sup>st</sup>.

The discussion then turned to discussion of how to handle the inquiries from individuals concerned about the Rail Trail project. There was concern about pro tanto payments, and the FOIA requests from individuals that were submitted to the Town. Mr. Mendes indicated that Ms. Galazka issued a response to the FOIA request, and that will be forwarded to the Committee. There was also concern about inviting individuals concerned about this project without Counsel being present, as well as concern about having such a meeting at all. The total spent to date on this project is \$196,060.08. The committee would like to have an information session with the town administration before meeting with the individuals concerned about the project in order to get answers from the town administration on the current status of the project. The suggestion was to ask the Board of Selectman to hold an executive session in order to understand the current state of the land acquisition efforts and the potential litigation. The committee would like to have this session on the July 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting that was previously scheduled. Also planned for the meeting on July 23<sup>rd</sup> was to have Ms. Galazka provide an update on the status of the construction grant for the Rail Trail project.

Regarding the Finance Committee meeting scheduled for the 13<sup>th</sup> of August, Mr. Dorsey proposed a discussion on the cost of contract analysis. This meeting can focus more on other contracts besides the Police contract since that contract is in the midst of impact bargaining and grievance discussions. There was an extensive discussion about the logistics of the year-end shuffle and how that affects overages on payroll line items, such as overtime.

The Committee would also like to invite Mr. Cresta to the meeting on August 13<sup>th</sup> or soon thereafter for a discussion about the Stacey Brook project, and possibly coastal resiliency (ie. Beach entrances).

There was also some discussion about inviting Rep. Ehrlich to a meeting for discussion about the bond bill and also about funding for the harbor plan.

Mr. Dorsey also raised the issue of a discussion on fiscal policies regarding unused levy capacity and reserve policies. Mr. Mendes also mentioned that the administration has draft fiscal policies that will shortly be ready to share with the Finance Committee for feedback.

Mr. Dorsey also mentioned a possible date for meeting with the auditors. Mr. Mendes suggested approaching the Selectmen about a possible joint meeting for the presentation from the auditors.

Meeting Adjourned 8:27 pm.