

**BOARD OR COMMITTEE:** Finance Committee

**DATE:** Thursday March 10, 2023 **TIME:** 10:00 am

**LOCATION:** Videoconferenced on Zoom, link below

#### Meeting Minutes

Call to Order at 10: am

Attending: Gabriele Voelker, Chuck Hartwell, Claire McGinnis, Eli MacCullagh, Tracie Shea, Kathy Neal, Joe Cuneo, Kathy Soule-Regine, MaryEllen Kennedy, Jenny Potee and Jan Ameen

1. Library Budget review for FY24 – Some conversation about salary lines getting it right. Gabe will follow-up. Library request nearly level funded after that increase to Director salary in FY23 to rehire.
2. Town Coordinator and Select Board budgets - very little change requested, up and down along line items. Floor of highway barn begun with former Supervisor can go forward now with current funding? Kathy and Gabe figure out if additional funding needed. Agree that the ATM 2022 special article for building maintenance is a good source. Portion of Computer upgrade special article of ATM 2022 (fy23 current) to upgrade Collector computer as needed following new software install. Conversation about solar and resulting REC's with various town electrical bills.
3. Fire Department and related budgets. Conversation about wage adjustment Joe would like to make for staff of significant longevity and consistent turnover. Gabe clear that these adjustments need to happen through a documented and evenly applied process to protect town. Station heating system project is done, and Joe has the request out to bid on generator, coming in over expectations in terms of price. We ran out of time before covering capital requests, so we invited Joe back on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March to continue.
4. MLP budget – they should have no problem with \$85K reimbursement to Town, although not yet total debt service covered. Gabe will meet with them offline to review details. Working toward capital reimbursements and final build-outs. First year of MLP Board getting stipends, but this makes them like other town boards. Working other system improvements for security, redundancy for outages, and efficiency or cost reductions. Request to circulate the warrant prior to final town meeting posting.
5. Board of Health 4-11% increase in the hauling costs which Jan Ameen and Jenny Potee reviewed. This operation budget has had a healthy margin in prior budgets so we won't have to increase the appropriation that full 4%. Impact will be in future years. Jenny hoping for stable staffing of course, and wage adjustment plan discussed.
6. Next meeting times are 3/16 at 6:30 pm hearings, then Monday 3/20 at 6:30 combined with SB to review STM, then 7:00 with Wendell Fin Comm to hear Elementary School Proposal.
7. Adjourn at 11:50, Gabe yes, Claire yes, Chuck yes.

#### Documents Referenced

FY24 budget sheet, Collecting Inputs

BoH FY24 Town Hauling costs