

## Minutes

### Finance Committee

April 14, 2022

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM by Jim Sullivan

Present by ZOOM Meeting: Jim Sullivan, Brian Cusack, Dan Sherman, Bill Boodry, Tarae Howell and David Mastroianni, Zachery Sletterink, Edward Bean, Doug Butler, Dennis Hogan, Stefan Chase, Don Ravenelle, Aimee Forsythe and Joseph Bertrand

Absent: Evan Kenney

Also, in Attendance: Town Administrator Stephen P. Maio, Town Accountant Kevin Gill, DPW Director Joe Conway, Anthony Chui Health Director, Frank Leone Capital Planning Committee Chair

- 1) Public Participation: None
- 2) Motion to approve the minutes for the March 23, 2022 Group Insurance Subcommittee by Dan Sherman seconded by Zachery Sletterink and so voted.
- 3) Motion to approve minutes of the minutes for the March 31, 2022 Full Finance Committee meeting by Bill Boodry Seconded by Dan Sherman and so voted.
- 4) In response to questions by certain Finance Committee members, Health Director Anthony Chui presented a power point to the Committee outlining the need and metrics regarding the additional positions requested in the Health and Human Services Budget for FY 2023. The committee completed a robust discussion on the merits of the new positions.
- 5) Budgets were reviewed.

i) WCATV-Cable

The total recommended for FY2023 is \$606,505 from cable receipts

ii) Group Insurance

The Subcommittee reported on the Group insurance budget the amount recommended \$15,205,320 with \$12,950,885 from Tax Levy, \$450,471 from Water Enterprise, \$312,013 from Sewer Enterprise and \$1,491,951 from WMGLD Enterprise. It was noted that the amount requested included \$1,400,000 for OPEB funding. The OPEB fund (\$25.5 Million) will be re-evaluated this summer and the OPEB funding amount may be revisited at a future date.

iii) Medicare

The amount recommended for FY2023 is \$874,280 from Tax levy.

iv) DPW

The DPW budget was revisited in order to account for the Laborer's Union Contract settlement.

Total amount requested for FY 2023 is \$7,584,130 with \$7,492,408 from tax levy and \$91,722 from available funds. The Water Enterprise Budget was presented \$6,204,494 from Water Receipts and the Sewer Enterprise Account was presented at \$9,148,699 from Sewer receipts.

6) Articles presented

- i) Capital- The Capital Planning Committee presented the FY2023 Capital Improvement Article in the amount of \$2,100,000 from Tax Levy, \$875,000 from Water Retained Earnings and \$862,000 from Sewer Retained Earnings. The Finance Committee noted the pleasant lack of any new leases and supported an annual increase of 5% in that area.
- ii) Debt Service-FY2023 is level funded from FY2022 in the amount of \$4,133,698.
- iii) MLD PILOT- The Payment in Lieu of Taxes as approved by the WMGLD Light Commissioners for FY2023 is \$945,828. The Committee expressed concern that the projected amount going forward projected an annual increase of 1.5%. Chair Sullivan will reach out to the WMGLD to begin discussions on the PILOT amount going forward.
- iv) Supplemental Budget- The amount requested from Free Cash is \$202,500 (\$120,000 Fire Department Overtime and \$82,500 for legal costs on the Walton School Litigation)
- v) Indemnification-The amount requested from Free Cash is \$130,000 (\$120,000 Fire and \$10,000 Police)
- vi) TIF Agreement- The Potential Tax agreement for Wakefield's first Tax Increment Financing Agreement for property located at 7 Audubon Road was discussed. The TIF would be for 5 years at a total Tax forgiveness of \$38,626.25.
- vii) National Guard Abatements-This article would allow the Board of Assessors to grant tax abatements to National Guardsmen while on active duty. Any cost would be funded through the overlay account.
- viii) Zoning Bylaw Recodification -This article would provide a Tax levy expenditure of \$50,000 to allow for the hiring of expert assistance for the Bylaw committee to recodify the Zoning Bylaw.
- ix) COLA Adjustments Retirees-This article would increase the COLA base for retirees from \$14,000 to \$16,000.
- x) Survivor Allowance retirees- This article would Increase the minimum survivor allowance for the surviving spouses of retirees from \$250 to \$500 per month.

Dan Sherman provided an updated forecast to the group which showed the Town to be in "good shape" financially going forward.

Chair Sullivan presented an overview of the new Full-Time employees added to the FY2023 Budget. The Town Departments presented a potential of 4 new employees and the Schools 13.

7) Voting on FY2023 Budgets

The Committee proceeded to vote on all FY2023 budgets pursuant to the attached Budget Vote Sheet.

8) Voting on FY2023 Articles

The Committee proceeded to vote on all FY2023 Articles pursuant to the attached Article Vote Sheet.

9) Committee Comments:

The Chair thanked all involved for the presentations in presenting the FY2023 budget.

Town Administrator Maio reminded Subcommittees to present any outstanding minutes so they could be voted at the next meeting.

10) Motion to adjourn at 10:31 PM by Bill Boodry seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted.

Budget#	Department	Tax Levy	Available Funds	FY23 Total	Source of Available Funds
1	Town Council	\$ 517,352.00	\$ -	\$ 517,352.00	
2	Accounting	\$ 441,395.00	\$ -	\$ 441,395.00	
3	I.T. Dept	\$ 381,706.00	\$ -	\$ 381,706.00	
4	Treasurer	\$ 233,917.00	\$ -	\$ 233,917.00	
5	Legal	\$ 194,797.00	\$ -	\$ 194,797.00	
7	Tax Collector	\$ 236,632.00	\$ -	\$ 236,632.00	
8	Assessors	\$ 253,448.00	\$ -	\$ 253,448.00	
9	Town Clerk	\$ 247,946.00	\$ -	\$ 247,946.00	
10	Election & Registration	\$ 37,700.00	\$ -	\$ 37,700.00	
11	Election Expense	\$ 38,775.00	\$ -	\$ 38,775.00	
12	Finance Committee	\$ 7,060.00	\$ -	\$ 7,060.00	
13	Conservation Commission	\$ 44,885.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 49,385.00	Wetland Filing Fees
14	Planning Board	\$ 12,975.00	\$ -	\$ 12,975.00	
15	Board of Appeals	\$ 27,800.00	\$ -	\$ 27,800.00	
Total General Government		\$ 2,676,388.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 2,680,888.00	Motion by Joseph Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted.
16	Police	\$ 6,723,493.00	\$ -	\$ 6,723,493.00	
17	Fire	\$ 6,327,332.00	\$ -	\$ 6,327,332.00	
18	Fire Alarm / Traffic Signals	\$ 66,700.00	\$ -	\$ 66,700.00	
19	Emergency Management	\$ 88,851.00	\$ -	\$ 88,851.00	
20	Building	\$ 438,778.00	\$ -	\$ 438,778.00	
22	Animal Inspector	\$ 40,600.00	\$ -	\$ 40,600.00	
24	Parking Clerk	\$ 12,782.00	\$ -	\$ 12,782.00	
Total Protection of Persons & Property		\$ 13,698,536.00	\$ -	\$ 13,698,536.00	Motion by Joseph Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
25	Council on Aging	\$ 247,300.00	\$ -	\$ 247,300.00	
26	Health and Human Services	\$ 383,076.00	\$ -	\$ 383,076.00	
27	Recreation	\$ 119,599.00	\$ -	\$ 119,599.00	
28	Veteran's Services	\$ 253,220.00	\$ -	\$ 253,220.00	Motion by Dan Sherman to reduce Veterans Budget by \$50,000 seconded by Ed Bean Motion failed 4-11 11 with Dan Sherman, Ed Bean, Brian Cusack and Doug Butler in the affirmative Jim Sullivan, Bill Boodry, Tarae Howell, David mastrianni, Zachery Sletterink, Dennis Hogan, Stean Chase, Don Ravenelle, Aimee Forythe and Joebertand in the negative.
Total Human Services		\$ 1,003,195.00	\$ -	\$ 1,003,195.00	Motion by Joseph Bertand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
29	DPW	\$ 6,642,408.00	\$ 91,722.00	\$ 6,734,130.00	Perpetual Care, Park Trust Funds, & Sale of Cemetry Lots
30	Snow & Ice	\$ 850,000.00	\$ -	\$ 850,000.00	
Total Public Works		\$ 7,492,408.00	\$ 91,722.00	\$ 7,584,130.00	Motion By Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
31	Water Enterprise	\$ -	\$ 6,204,494.00	\$ 6,204,494.00	Water Receipts Motion by Joe Bertrand Seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
32	Sewer Enterprise	\$ -	\$ 9,148,699.00	\$ 9,148,699.00	Sewer Receipts motion by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
Total Water & Sewer Enterprise		\$ -	\$ 15,353,193.00	\$ 15,353,193.00	Water & Sewer receipts
33	Total WPS	\$ 47,607,077.00	\$ 115,000.00	\$ 47,722,077.00	School Bus Fees Motion by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
34	Total Library	\$ 1,815,376.00	\$ 61,721.00	\$ 1,877,097.00	Library trust Funds Motion by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
35	Total Vocational Schools	\$ 2,163,315.00	\$ -	\$ 2,163,315.00	Motion by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
36	Street Lights	\$ 188,131.00	\$ -	\$ 188,131.00	
38	Historical Commission	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	
39	General Insurance	\$ 459,166.00	\$ -	\$ 459,166.00	
40	Medicare	\$ 874,280.00	\$ -	\$ 874,280.00	
41	Unemployment	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -	\$ 75,000.00	
42	Reserve Fund	\$ 400,000.00	\$ -	\$ 400,000.00	
	Cable TV Public Access Enterprise	\$ -	\$ 606,505.00	\$ 606,505.00	\$569,005 Cable TV Fees & 37,500 Retained Earnings
Total Unclassified		\$ 1,998,577.00	\$ 606,505.00	\$ 2,605,082.00	Motion by Joe Bertand Seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
44	Professional / Medical	\$ 8,350.00	\$ -	\$ 8,350.00	
43	Worker's Comp	\$ 436,500.00	\$ -	\$ 436,500.00	
45	Retirement	\$ 6,087,779.00	\$ -	\$ 6,087,779.00	
46	Group Health Insurance	\$ 12,950,885.00	\$ -	\$ 12,950,885.00	
Total Benefits & Administration		\$ 19,483,514.00	\$ -	\$ 19,483,514.00	Motion by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
Total MLD Benefits		\$ -	\$ 2,470,373.00	\$ 2,470,373.00	Insurance, Retirement, & Workers Comp Motion by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
GRAND TOTAL		\$ 97,938,386.00	\$ 18,703,014.00	\$ 116,641,400.00	Motion by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted

Article #		FY23 Tax Levy	Free Cash	Water	Sewer	Avail Funds	Borrow	Comment	
	Capital Outlay	\$ 2,100,000.00		\$ 875,000.00	\$ 862,000.00			Water & Sewer From Retained Earnings	Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
	Debt Service Fund	\$ 4,133,698.00							Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
	WMGLD PILOT					\$ 945,828.00		MLD Receipts	Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
	Town - Supplemental Appropriations	\$ -	\$ 202,500.00			\$ -		Legal - Expert Witnesses Walton School \$82,500 Fire OT \$120,000	Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
	Police & Fire Indemnification	\$ -	\$ 130,000.00					\$10,000 Police & \$120,000 Fire	Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
	Eminent Domain	\$ 1.00							Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
	Trash Collection	\$ 2,292,046.00							Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
9	Zoning Recodification	\$ 50,000.00							Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
	Town Wide Drainage Improvement						\$ 900,000.00		Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
	Quiet Zone Improvements						\$ 2,000,000.00		Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
	Hart's Hill Water Storage Tank						\$ 5,000,000.00		Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
10	Retirement - Increase COLA Base	\$ -						Favorable Action	Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
11	Retirement - Increase Survivor Allowance	\$ -						Favorable Action	Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
	TIF Agreement 7 Audubon Road	\$ -						Favorable Action	Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
	National Guard - Abatements	\$ -						Favorable Action	Motion to approve by Joe Bertrand seconded by Dennis Hogan and so voted
	TOTAL	\$ 8,575,745.00	\$ 332,500.00	\$ 875,000.00	\$ 862,000.00	\$ 945,828.00	\$ 7,900,000.00		