

**Wellfleet Finance Committee
Virtual Zoom Meeting
Wednesday January 27, 2021; 7pm
Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Fred Magee, Chair; Kathy Granlund, Vice Chair; Bob Wallace, Linda Pellegrino, Sarah Robin, Jenn Rhodes, Jeff Tash

Members Absent: Stephen Polowczyk, Ira Wood

Others Present: Maria Broadbent, Town Administrator; Heather Michaud, Town Accountant; Rebekah Eldridge, Committee Secretary; Mark Vincent, DPW director; Jay Norton, Assistant DPW Director; Jean Leidenfrost, Administrative Assistant for DPW; Curt Felix, Representing the Wastewater Committee; Rich Pauley, Fire Chief; Mike Hurley, Police Chief; Helen Miranda-Wilson, Selectboard Member; Scott Horsley, Consultant for Wastewater Committee.

Chair Magee called the meeting to order at 7:06pm

Minutes

- January 13, 2021 ~ **Granlund moved to approve the minutes as written; Robin seconded; and it was voted unanimously. 7-0**

Review DPW FY 2022 Operations Budget

- Vincent explained that with all his six budgets he tried to keep them level funded.
- He continued with the facilities budget. (417) He gave details of this budget. Tash asked about the electricity line being so expensive and asked once the solar panels are hooked up and generating electricity will this line item go down. Administrator Broadbent stated that any revenue from the solar panels will be put into the general fund.
- Vincent continued with his next budget which was DPW Operations (420) he gave some information on what this budget consists of and stated there are office supplies and other incidentals within this budget. He stated that this budget was increased because he had spoken with the Fire Chief Rich Pauley and this budget has to do with updating annual maintenance on the fire vehicles. The Chief explained to Vincent that the fire department was willing to absorb the cleaning and custodial cost and have Vincent add that money to his repair maintenance to fire safety vehicles. Chief Pauley explained to the committee that they used to have an outside custodian come in and clean but now the department is doing a good job cleaning it themselves so the money they would spend on cleaning he would suggest to move that money from the cleaning account to fire apparatus maintenance. They continued to discuss this budget.
- DPW Highway's was next on the budget list. (422). Vincent explained this budget and the department received Chapter 90 Funds from the state. This has been saved for repaving and the Lt. Island Budget. There were no questions to go with this budget.
- Vincent moved to his next budget which was snow and ice budget. He stated that this budget is the toughest to predict due to the weather being so unpredictable.

- Streetlights (424) was the next budget to be reviewed there was no explanation needed with this budget. He stated there is little maintenance.
- DPW Transfer Station (433) Vincent stated he is asking for an increase with this budget. He stated it was increased because of the renegotiation of the contract with the New Bedford Waste Company. The town pays a tipping fee. New Bedford increased this fee. Vincent continued giving more details with this budget.
- Broadbent complimented the DPW staff on their ability to get the back hoe that they needed, from outside sources.
- **Granlund moved, Pellegrino seconded, and it was voted unanimously to approve all six of the Department of Public Works Budget. 7-0**

Review Water Enterprise FY 2022 Budget

- Jim Hood wasn't on the meeting, Eldridge gave an update that although the budget that was in front of the committee was last year's she believes it will increase with revenue due to the new water line being installed down Briar Lane and many people inquiring about town water due to well issues. Felix came in and explained that there are new pipes being put in, he stated there are parts of the system that are aging and will need to be updated. He continued with fees that are in place and things that the Board of Water Commissioners are looking to change to better the water system. Wilson spoke up about money that will be spent on the system and debt services. Felix continued to explain and address any questions and concerns from the committee. They continued this discussion at great length. The finance committee will invite Jim Hood to a future meeting to discuss this budget. Chief Pauley gave some insight with the water regarding the fire hydrants.
- **No action was taken on this budget**

Discussion of current Wastewater Committee projects

- Felix began by sharing his screen and explaining the Wastewater projects and the costs that go with it. He explained that there is significant grant funding so the town wouldn't be responsible for many of the costs that go with wastewater. He discussed improved septic systems that can be used. Felix explained that he has had many conversations with Department of Environmental Protection. Horsley gave some input on the procedures to improve septic systems and the cost that go along with them, he presented the committee with a slide show to better explain the procedures moving forward. The committee had some questions for both Felix and Horsley. The discussion went into further detail and Horsley explained he will have a written report before town meeting explaining in greater detail. Chair Magee expressed that this will continue to be discussed during future meetings.
- **No action was taken**

Liaison Reports

- There were no liaison reports at this meeting.

Transfers

- There were no transfers

Correspondence

- Letters from Bill Dugan regarding School Choice
- Chair Magee asked the committee to read the letters and he will submit these as correspondence. He went on to explain that it is not in the Wellfleet Finance Committee's purview to make decisions on school choice or funding. They are an advisory board.

New Business

Granlund moved, Pellegrino seconded, and it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. 7-0

Meeting adjourned 9:07pm

Public Records:

DPW 2022 budgets

Water Enterprise Budget for 2021 (2022 not available at the time of the meeting)

Slide show provided by Curt Felix and Scott Horsley

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