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WAYS & MEANS MEETING MINUTES BURLINGTON, MA 01803

APR 27, 2022

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Present: Steve Morin, Chair

John Iler, Vice Chair

Brad Bond Chris Campell
Doug Davison Michael Hardy
Frank Monaco Meghan Nawoichik

Rob Neufeld Ed Parsons
Roger Riggs Sonia Rollins
David Tait Jaya Vorungantit

Absent: Phil Gallagher

Guests: Thomas Browne, Police Chief

Peter Coppola, Historical Committee John Danizio, Town Accountant

Brendan Egan, Parks & Recreation Director Joyce Fay, Historical Treasurer and Chairperson

Thoms Hayes, Town Engineer

Robert Kirchner, Deputy Police Chief

Barbara Leroux, Chairperson Sculpture Park Committee

Mike Patterson, Fire Chief Nick Priest, Select Board

Paul Sagarino, Town Administrator Paul Tierney, Town Appraiser/Assessor

Melisa Tintocalis, Economic Development Director

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Participations N/A
Additional Comments N/A

FY23 Budget Reviews

691 – Historical Commission

\$9,620

The departmental budget was reduced from the amount printed in the budget book and town warrant. Volunteers helped to build out the web site that had been in the upcoming fiscal year budget. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support.

Vote: [14-0-0]

FY23 Warrant Articles

27 – Historical Shed \$33,000

This warrant article covers the cost of building behind the old West Street School...

Vote: [11-3-0]

Yes: Chris Campbell, Doug Davison, Mike Hardy, Frank Monaco, Meghan Nawoichik, Rob Neufeld, Ed Parsons, Roger Riggs, Sonia Rollins, Jayashree Voruganti, Steve Morin

No: Brad Bond, John Iler, David Tait

16 - Fire - Transfer for Ambulance Services

WITHDRAWN

7-05 – Fire – Phase II Communications Plan

\$700,000

The warrant article is involved with the Public Safety Communications equipment upgrade phase II – the project of phase I was approved last year for \$1.24M and it is mentioned that phase II will be estimated to be \$700,000. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support.

Vote: [14-0-0]

7-06 – Fire/Police – Records Management & Dispatch System

\$439,500

The warrant article involves upgrading communication capabilities within the police and fire department. This is a computer-aided dispatch and record management system for both departments so that communication is organized electronically and made available to town employees who need to access the data.. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support.

Vote: [14-0-0]

7-07 – Police – Network Security Update

\$63,219

The warrant article involves data switching and upgrading network security – the existing equipment is end-of-lifed and no longer receiving security updates.. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support.

Vote: [14-0-0]

7-08 – Police – Body Cameras

\$222,870

The warrant article involves providing storage for surveillance video taken from the body cameras. The police department requested \$240,000 to receive as a grant – this grant would be a five-year plan for storage and license (estimated at \$39.10/month for each of the 95 worn cameras).

Vote: [14-0-0]

2 - Transfer of Funds FY2022/Various Accounts

WITHDRAWN

5 - Transfer from Free Cash to OPEB Trust Fund

WITHDRAWN

\$20,000

29 – Sculpture Park

A request for maintenance and improvements for the town of Burlington's sculpture park; the money will be intended for three separate uses: (1) the plan is to enter five 2-year leases at \$2,500 per sculpture (2) the committee is looking at purchasing for \$9,000 from a new vendor (3) ADA compliant walkways at the park, the current estimate is approximately \$10,000. The three uses total over \$20,000 but the committee has \$16,861 in donations; the combined amounts (donations + request) should cover the cost of the project.

During the Sculpture Park discussion, Bob Buckley spoke, I believe as a member of the Sculpture Park Committee. He assured us that this would not become a regular request and that it was a carryover event due to the impact of Covid on the local business community.

The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support.

Vote: [12-1-0]

Yes: Brad, Bond, Chris Campbell, Doug Davison, Mike Hardy, John Iler, Frank Monaco, Steve Morin, Meghan Nawoichik, Rob Neufeld, Ed Parsons, Roger Riggs, Jayashree Voruganti No: David Tait

24 – Will of Marshall Simonds

\$70,382.69

The Recreation department earmarked money received from the Will of Marshall Simonds trust fund for several projects and assist with different items that the Recreation Department is doing with summer programming – this year, the money will be allocated towards a treehouse project. The project is estimated to be completed in a 10-week time frame.

Vote: [13-0-0]

7-10 – Rec – Pickup Truck w/ Plow

\$50,000

A request of a Ford F-350 pick-up truck with a plow set – this vehicle will replace a Ford Ranger truck that has been in service for the department for 14 years. The floorbeds in the existing vehicle have rusted out and there is rust in the frame. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support. A motion was made and seconded.

Vote: [13-0-0]

7-11 – Rec – Simonds Park Renovations

\$230,000

A request for resurfacing/reconstruction of the basketball court at Simonds Park – the renovation will include installation of LED lighting, new backboards and other renovations that will be in accordance with safety regulations. A motion was made and seconded.

Vote: [13-0-0]

7-09 – Economic Development

\$35,000

This warrant article involves the transportation study on Route 3A – the process is going through the overlay to <u>attract more pedestrian-friendly</u> and <u>bike-accommodated areas</u> on the state-owned road. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support.

Vote: [13-0-0]

30 - CPI Adjustment for Ederly

A program to support lower income households by reducing real estate taxes. It is funded through the allowance for abatements of the overlay account. The commission of revenue has determined the cost of living adjustments for FY 2023 tax exemptions – this year it is at 7%. To qualify for the exemption, an applicant must meet certain income and asset qualifications. The town would grant up to \$2,000; Burlington has a total of 21 households that have qualified in previous years. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support.

Vote: [13-0-0]

31 – Elderly & Disable Taxation Fund

A relief fund that defrays public charges accountable to the elder and/or disabled individual(s) – similar to the scholarship fund, a contribution section will be added on tax bills. A committee will be formed, including the <u>assessor's office</u>, <u>town treasurer</u>, and <u>three town individuals</u> appointed by the moderator. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support.

Vote: [13-0-0]

26 – July 4th Parade \$40,000

A significant community event for the Fourth of July that includes a parade and fireworks – typically the cost of this event is shared between the business and personal donations in the town. The funds will come from free cash.

Vote: [13-0-0]

6 - Fund Revolving Accounts

Sets the expenditure limits in the revolving accounts – the expenditure limits will be the same as FY 2022. Vote: /13-0-0/

15 – PEG Cable Access Enterprise Fund

\$585,000

Cable companies negotiate with the town administration for a surcharge on the cable subscribers that goes towards cable access. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support.

Vote: [12-0-1]

Yes: Brad, Bond, Chris Campbell, Doug Davison, Mike Hardy, John Iler, Frank Monaco, Meghan Nawoichik, Rob Neufeld, Ed Parsons, Roger Riggs, Jayashree Voruganti, Steve Morin

Abstain: David Tait

25 - Affordable Housing Coordination Services

\$40,000

Requesting funding for coordination and consultation services for affordable housing in Burlington. The mission, appointed by the Burlington Housing and Town Administrators, is to consider housing needs in Burlington with particular attention to housing opportunities that are affordable to residents of all income levels and abilities. The request focuses on the administration of affordable housing as well as setting up

improved processes and programs to manage the development. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support.

Vote: [13-0-0]

28 - 119 S Bedford Rd

A deed-restricted affordable housing unit is up for sale – there are three possible options that the Select Board has for handling the property; one of the three options include the town having enough money to purchase the home.

Vote: Postponed

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to the approval of 4/20/22.

Vote: [12-0-1]

Yes: Brad, Bond, Chris Campbell, Doug Davison, Mike Hardy, John Iler, Frank Monaco, Meghan Nawoichik, Rob Neufeld, Ed Parsons, Roger Riggs, David Tait, Steve Morin Abstain: Jayashree Vorugant

MEETING ADJOURNED.