

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes

2024 JAN 30 AM 7:57

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Date: November 14, 2023

Present: O'Connor, Cooper, Pratt, Wells, Kuphal, O'Connell, Cooney

Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 6:31 p.m.

Motioned by Cooper, seconded by Pratt to accept the minutes of October 10, 2023 as written. Unanimous.

Article 4-Prior Year Bills-\$1125

Jennifer Barrett: We had a contractor that requested his permit fee to be refunded. After the Fiscal Year closed, the local business decided not to pursue the work.

William Pratt: Can we stipulate, in the future, that people need to send their bills in before the end of the fiscal year?

Jennifer Barrett: We normally ask them to do this, but we have no control over what they do.

William Pratt: We should tell them that if it comes in late, it will have to wait until an Annual Town Meeting to be paid.

Motioned by Wells, seconded by Pratt to rescind the original vote on this article. Unanimous.

Motioned by O'Connell, seconded by Pratt to recommend that \$1125 be transferred from the 2024 budget to pay for the prior year bills. Unanimous.

Article 11-Fire Headquarters-Safety Issue

Judy O'Connor: What is the \$45,000 actually for?

Jennifer Barrett: This will be used to stabilize the wall and cover the cost of the past couple of months. This is to make the building safe until we get our equipment out of there.

Judy O'Connor: Who makes the decision on whether the building comes down or gets repaired?

Jennifer O'Connell: That would be a decision that would be made at Town Meeting.

William Pratt: When will they be moving into the new building?

Jennifer Barrett: It will be no later than the end of March. We are hoping it will be earlier.

Judy O'Connor: Is this a firm amount?

Jennifer Barrett: This is a firm amount with a contingency.

Motioned by Pratt, seconded by Wells to recommend that \$45,000 be transferred from Free Cash for the design, construction and stabilization of the old Fire HQ to address the safety issues. Unanimous.

Reserve Fund Transfer-Assessors Professional Services \$4,900

Jen O'Connell: Why can't this wait until May? What do we have in the Reserve Fund account right now?

Jennifer Barrett: We have \$110,000 in that account.

Jen O'Connell: I thought it was \$75,000. That is what it has been since I have been on the Committee.

Jennifer Barrett: It was raised to \$110,000 to be more in line with the Town Budget.

Judy O'Connor: This comes out of our Reserve Fund. We should have gotten this before. Isn't there something in one of his other lines that he can use?

Jennifer Barrett: He is in a deficit of \$2,775. He cannot spend anything for supplies in his account at this time.

Judy O'Connor: Department heads should understand that the Reserve Fund is only for unforeseen expenditures.

Motioned by Pratt, seconded by Wells to transfer \$4,900 from the Reserve Fund to the Assessors Professional Services Account #001-141-5300-000000. Unanimous.

The Special Town Meeting began at 7:25 p.m.

The Special Town Meeting concluded at 7:37 p.m.

Motioned by O'Connell, seconded by Wells to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Unanimous.

Jen O'Connell
Chuck Wells
W. H. Pratt
R. M. Wells
Judith O'Connell
Thomas Pratt