

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday October 15, 2019 in 1ST Floor Conference Room, Town Hall

Members Present: Dorsey (Chair), Fletcher, Sullivan, Rosenberg, Hartmann, Hilario, McNerney, Goldman

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Ronald Mendes (minutes taker & Asst Town Administrator, Admin & Finance), Sean Fitzgerald (Town Administrator), Gino Cresta (Asst Town Administrator/DPW Director)

Mr. Dorsey called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Mr. Dorsey reviewed minutes of past meetings from meetings of June 19th, July 9th, & August 13th. Motion (Sullivan) to approve minutes of meetings of June 19th, July 9th & August 13th; 2nd (Hilario) and it was VOTED to approve meeting minutes.

Mr. Dorsey reviewed the agenda and proceeded to the water & sewer presentation. Mr. Fitzgerald stepped through the power point presentation that was provided to the Select Board in August (copy attached). This analysis is the basis for the recommended adjustment to the FY2020 sewer enterprise fund budget, as well as the recommended appropriation from retained earnings in the Sewer Enterprise Fund to further support the FY 2020 sewer budget in order to cure expected deficits resulting from expected increases in costs.

After stepping through the presentation, there was then some discussion regarding the financial pressures that are presenting themselves on the operation of the LWSC Sewer Treatment Plant. The conversation then shifted to the Stacys Brook project. There was some discussion regarding the current status of the Stacys Brook project and the environmental impact on Kings Beach. Mr. Cresta provided an update on the project and the work that has been done to mitigate the effects of the outfall of Kings Beach.

There was then a discussion about the broad themes that can be expected to be addressed at the fall town meeting. The major theme will be infrastructure. Town Meeting members will be hearing about water & sewer infrastructure, roads management and management of solid waste/recycling programs.

Mr. Fitzgerald then explained in more detail the broad themes that will be reported on at town meeting regarding Solid Waste/Recycling programs. He said that part of the solution will be limiting households to one 35 gallon trash container per week, and he expects to be needing a further year end transfer to be able to meet the FY2020 costs of solid waste/recycling as the adopted budget is expected to be insufficient to cover these costs.

Mr. Dorsey then asked to have the discussion surrounding organizational changes in Town Hall. Mr. Fitzgerald deferred talking about changes in Community Development due to union negotiations that are on-going. Mr. Fitzgerald then discussed some of the changes that have taken place in Assessing with the recent resignation of the Assistant Assessor and the retirement of one of the full-time clerical positions. This function has largely been included with the new Town Hall Customer Service function. Mr. Fitzgerald is looking into either regionalizing the assessment function, or possibly contracting this function out to contractors.

There was some discussion about vacancies and specifically about the Facilities Director positions. There may be a plan to hire that position again. The Town Accountant and Administrative Assistant positions have recently had conditional offers sent out to candidates and we expect to be filling both positions soon.

Mr. Dorsey then shifted the discussion to the final three issues on the agenda, including a discussion on the unused levy capacity, fiscal policies and audit findings.

The next meeting will be determined by Mr. Dorsey sending around a few dates, and he will determine the date that works for most members.

Meeting Adjourned 8:34pm.