



Ware

MASSACHUSETTS

Finance Committee
126 Main Street
Ware, MA 01082

Finance Committee Meeting

Meeting Location: Selectmen's Conference Room
Ware Town Hall – 126 Main Street

Meeting Dates: Tuesday, May 18, 2021

Meeting Time: 6:00 pm

Meeting Agenda items to be discussed:

1. Town Meeting Recommendations
2. Reserve Fund Request – Fire Department
3. Review of any emails or correspondence

Join Zoom Meeting

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Meeting ID: 859 9378 2404

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At the time of posting of this meeting notice and agenda the above items were the only items known. Should an additional item be brought forward, unless of an emergency nature, it will be placed on a future docket. The general public is invited to this and all meetings of the Ware Finance Committee.

Submitted by

Lynn Nenni
Finance Committee Chair

May 18, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Finance Committee Members Present: Lynn Nenni, Ken Willette, Terry Smith

Special Guests: Anna Marques, Building Inspector: Chris Gagnon, Fire Chief

The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm

Items on the agenda were discussed out of order as noted below.

Item 3) Review of emails and correspondence:

The committee reviewed an email received earlier in the day from the Town Manager requesting the committee consider adding an additional appropriation of \$70,000 to the FY 2022 warrant to repoint the brick at Town Hall. Anna Marques provided an overview of the project, stating that the project was bid for the second time, was partially grant funded and came in \$70,000 over budget. The committee had several questions which needed to be followed up on at a later date, and therefore had no recommendation on the request.

Item 1) Town Meeting Recommendations:

The committee discussed their recommendations on the FY 2022 budget in preparation for the 7:10 pm meeting with the Selectman. The consensus of the committee was mostly positive, however concerns were raised that the sewer rates needed to be raised because they did not cover the cost of operations resulting in a \$125,000 general fund contribution to the sewer department. In addition, Terry was concerned with the proposed bonded capital purchases for the Public Works and Fire Departments and thought the purchases should be delayed pending a thorough review of the Town's capital plan.

Item 2) Reserve Fund Request- Fire Department:

The committee was missing documentation for the reserve request from the Fire Department and therefore decided to delay the discussion and vote.

The Fire Chief reviewed the warrant article requesting approval for the purchase of a "class A" fire truck in the amount of \$625,000 stating that he planned to replace engine 2 as it no longer met the safety needs of the department, is rusting and not fully functioning. The firetruck is 33 years old.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm.