

Ware Finance Committee

February 25, 2015*

Selectmen's Meeting Room

Present: Denis R. Ouimette, Daniel J. O'Connor, Scott Mosso, Janice E. Hills, Brendan O'Neil

Absent: none

Guest(s): Olivia Mosso (2.5 yrs old), Honorary FC Member; George Staiti (on behalf of COA)

Quorum met, meeting opened at 7:00 pm.

Reserve Fund balance: **\$41,800.00**

*This meeting originally scheduled for 2/9/15, but cancelled due to snow storm; rescheduled to 2/20/15, but cancelled again due to lack of quorum (illness).

New Business:

Reserve Fund transfer request in the amount of **\$1,000** made by the *Council on Aging (#541)* to pay for the balance of the janitor's salary (*#541-5110*). The janitor's hours were reduced at the start of the fiscal year along with every other office employee; when the hours were restored via the Special Town Meeting last fall, the janitor's hours were missed. Salaries are not considered to meet any of the criteria (*Unplanned Event, Health, Safety or Emergency*) necessary for a transfer request from the *Reserve Fund (#131-5701)*. As such, motion to deny the transfer request was made by Scott, seconded by Janice and passed 5-0. Several recommendations were given to the COA to resolve this issue: first, to continue paying full salary as there's sufficient sum at this time in the budget to do so; second, to seek a transfer via a warrant article at the Annual Town Meeting in the spring; or third, to seek an intradepartmental transfer (MGL Ch. 44, s. 33B) via majority approval of FinComm and BOS.

Reserve Fund transfer request in the amount of **\$900** made by the DPW to replace a traffic light at the intersection of Vernon and West streets. The transfer met the safety criterion for a transfer to the *Traffic lights (#293)* line item of the town budget. Motion to approve was made by Scott, seconded by Dan and passed 5-0.

Senate email: Governor Baker pledged to not reduce Local Aid, nor raise any taxes to close the State's deficit. The Senate confirmed the same idea.

Annual Report was submitted by Denis to the town manager.

Revenue/Expense Report: The second quarter was reviewed.

Contact info: Denis collected the members' info and will forward an updated list to each.

Town Budget: The Town Budget is due from the TM on Monday, **March 2, 2015**. After distribution to FinComm, we'll meet to review, discuss and arrive at questions we'll have for the TM of various department heads during the month of March. Joint review with BOS will be in April.

Old Business:

Pathfinder: The superintendant responded with a letter combined with a breakdown by grade level of the number of students in every class; also, the roof replacement will go out to bid in a few weeks.

Email responses: Emails to the Police Chief, TM and TA were answered about drug money seizures and speeding tickets. Drug monies get split in half to the district attorney and Ware. Money Ware gets is used towards further investigations; there's never enough to use for a new cruiser. Speeding tickets go to the State and the DOT later sends Ware its share.

The minutes of January 22, 2015, were motioned for approval by Dan and seconded by Scott; passed by a 5-0 vote.

Next Meeting: TBD

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm; motion to adjourn made by Denis, seconded by Scott and approved by 5-0 vote.

February 25, 2015, Minutes reviewed and approved:

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