

# *Ware Finance Committee*

March 13, 2015

Selectmen's Conference Room

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

Absent: Janice E. Hills

Guest(s): Tracy Meehan, Town Accountant

Quorum met, meeting opened at 7:00 pm.

Reserve Fund balance: \$29,800.00

## **New Business:**

Reserve Fund transfer request in the amount of \$15,000 made by the Town Manager for transfer to the *Municipal Insurance (#945-5700)* line item; this request met the *Unplanned Event* criterion. The insurance funds set aside for injury & accident claims have already been exhausted for this fiscal year. Motion to approve the transfer in the amount of **\$12,000** (to cover known bills) from *Finance Committee Reserve Fund (#131-5701)* was made by Scott and seconded by Dan. Motion passed 4-0.

**Town Budget:** The Town Budget is due back to the TM on Monday, **April 6, 2015**. We'll continue to 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. A review of a list of proposed changes in the budget from the TM was taken into account.

With the pending *retirement* of Police Chief Dennis Healy, questions about the interim chief's salary and how the possible delayed hiring of an additional officer will affect the department budget; also, the pending *retirement* within the next year of Fire Chief Thomas Coulombe and a fireman's position along with questions of Call firemen were brought up by Scott and will be forwarded to the TM. Similar questions about the *retirement* of DPW Director Thom Martens and possibly even Asst. Director Dave Tworek in the near future to be assessed.

Talk of delaying the Pathfinder school roof and pro-rating the town share of the budget expense has the consensus of FinComm that we would prefer giving them the **\$27,000** that the roof replacement would cost this year; the feeling is that the roof will only be more costly the longer it's delayed.

Pathfinder: some unwelcome news: 9 new students from Ware means a **\$98,532** increase in our allotment to a total of **\$1,126,880**.

MMA email: Gov. Baker filed a **\$200million** Ch. 90 bond bill for this fiscal year, in addition to the \$100million he released that was held back this year by former Gov. Patrick.

Sen. Brewer reception: At the Sr. Ctr. on *April 12, 2015, from 2-4.*

**Old Business:**

The minutes of February 25, 2015, were reviewed. Motion to approve by Scott was seconded by Dan and passed 4-0.

The minutes of March 9, 2015, were reviewed. Motion to approve by Scott was seconded by Brendan and passed 4-0.

**Next Meetings:** March 26, 27 & 30. Meeting for 3/16/15 is cancelled. Denis to prepare some of the budget questions for Stuart (TM) ahead of the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm; motion to adjourn made by Scott, seconded by Brendan and approved by 4-0 vote.

March 13, 2015, Minutes reviewed and approved:

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