

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

February 18, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

Old Water Department Room – Falmouth Town Hall
59 Town Hall Square, Falmouth, MA 02540

APPROVED MINUTES

Present: Keith Schwegel, Susan P. Smith, Kathleen Beriau, Joseph “Dutch” Drolette, Ron Dyer, Cynthia Eaton, Peter Hargraves, Mary Harris, Deborah D. Maguire, Judith P. Magnani, Jim Marnell, James Newman

Absent: Nick Lowell, Joseph Lemay, Wendy Vogel

Public Present: Jennifer Mullen (Finance Director), Julian Suso (Town Manager), Sam Patterson (Board of Selectmen), Brad Cole (Falmouth Enterprise) and six members of the general public

Handouts: None

1. WELCOME

Keith Schwegel opened the meeting at 7:00pm

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

None

4. APPROVE MINUTES

Mary Harris moved to approve the minutes of 1/22/2020

Ron Dyer seconded

All in favor

Peter Hargraves requested the “s” be added to his last name in Item 4 of the 1/28/2020 minutes

Jim Newman moved to approve the minutes of 1/28/2020 as amended

Ron Dyer seconded

All in favor

Dutch Drolette moved to approve the minutes of 2/4/2020

Ron Dyer seconded

All in favor

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES – HUMAN SERVICES

Deb Maguire moved \$516,799 for Human Services

Dutch Drolette seconded

Deb presented the details of the budget, focusing on the following:

- Salary increases

The Committee discussed the following:

- Beneficiaries of the program
- Grants Recipient Groups

All in favor

6. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT – UPPER CAPE REGIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Susan Smith moved \$3,177,330 for the Upper Cape Regional Technical School

Dutch Drolette seconded

Sue presented the details of the budget, focusing on the following:

- Budget decrease for FY21
- Student statistics
- SPED staffing

The Committee discussed the following:

- Falmouth student attendance
- Number of students not accepted
- Field House feasibility study
- Falmouth percentage if requested
- Upper Cape Technical School Board participation
- Calculation of Town's portion
- Impact of School Choice

All in favor

7. WARRANT ARTICLE 9 – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT STABILIZATION FUND

Kathleen Beriau moved \$1,032,079 for the Capital Improvement Stabilization Fund

All in favor

8. WARRANT ARTICLE 10 – OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TRUST FUND

Kathleen Beriau moved \$500,000 for the Other Post Employment Benefits Trust Fund

Dutch Drolette seconded

All in favor

9. WARRANT ARTICLE 11 – WORKERS' COMPENSATION TRUST FUND

Kathleen Beriau moved \$140,000 for the Workers' Compensation Trust Fund

Dutch Drolette seconded

The Committee discussed the following:

- Partially self-insured (prior years)
- Fully insured (FY21)

All in favor

10. WARRANT ARTICLE 13 – WAGE SETTLEMENTS TO EMPLOYEES

Kathleen Beriau moved \$300,000 for Wage Settlements

Dutch Drolette seconded

The Committee discussed the following:

- Unsettled Unions

All in favor

11. WARRANT ARTICLE 18 – REVOLVING FUNDS

Kathleen Beriau moved the Revolving Funds Article

Susan Smith seconded

Note: Recreation's allotment was not updated to the \$40K voted at November 2019 Town Meeting

All in favor

12. WARRANT ARTICLE 38 – CPC – LITTLE POND CONSERVATION AREA

Peter Hargraves presented the CPC process and the following statistics:

- 3% of property taxes
- Reserve balance
- Total available

- Allocations

Peter Hargraves moved to concur with the \$121,000 for the removal of invasive species at the Little Pond Conservation Area

The Committee discussed the following:

- Payment process
- Project monitoring
- Little Pond Conservation Area

All in favor

13. WARRANT ARTICLE 39 – CPC – NYE PARK RECREATION COURTS

Peter Hargraves moved to concur with \$429,485 for court rehabilitation and construction at Nye Park

Dutch Drolette seconded

Peter explained the details of the project

All in favor

14. WARRANT ARTICLE 40 – CPC – FALMOUTH ROD & GUN CLUB

Peter Hargraves moved to concur with \$151,498 for the Upper Child's River restoration at the Falmouth Rod & Gun Club

Ron Dyer seconded

Peter explained the details of the project

All but one in favor, Susan Smith abstained

15. WARRANT ARTICLE 41 – CPC – BIKEWAY EXTENSION

Peter Hargraves moved to concur with \$350,000 for a Shining Sea Bikeway Extension

Ron Dyer seconded

Peter explained the details of the project

The Committee discussed the following:

- What the funds would be used for

All in favor

16. WARRANT ARTICLE 44 – CPC – BAY VIEW CEMETERY GRAVESTONES

Peter Hargraves moved to concur with \$154,970 for assessment and preservation at Bay View Cemetery

Ron Dyer seconded

Peter explained the details of the project

The Committee discussed the following:

- Cost of renovation at other Cemeteries

All in favor

17. WARRANT ARTICLE 45 – CPC – INVENTORY OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

Peter Hargraves moved to concur with \$30,000 for an Inventory of Historical Resources-Phase 4

Peter explained the details of the final stage of this project

All in favor

18. WARRANT ARTICLE 48 – CPC – ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Peter Hargraves moved to concur with \$120,000 for Administrative Expenses

Peter explained the details of the request

All in favor

19. DISCUSS QUESTIONS FOR FIRE/RESCUE BUDGET AND ARTICLE 14: HIRE 8 NEW FIREFIGHTERS

The Committee discussed the following:

- Comparisons to other, similar, Towns
- Process and purpose for the February 25th meeting
- Committee's responsibility for voting the Article Appropriation
- Questions that were compiled and distributed in a prior meeting
- Public Comment process/placement for the February 25th meeting

Todd Taylor, citizen was recognized for public comment – he asked what two issues the Committee deliberate on in the February 25th meeting

The Chair responded with the details and a brief commentary on the Finance Committee process

Todd Taylor then asked about whether the Safer Grant had come up in any discussions

The Chair responded that this question was included in the compilation for the February 25th meeting

The Committee continued to discuss the following:

- FCTV recorded broadcast of the February 25th meeting
- Distribution of the compiled questions to the Public

20. OTHER BUSINESS

None

21. ADJOURN

Dutch Drolette moved to adjourn at 8:28pm

Ron Dyer seconded

All in favor