

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WAREHAM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: January 11, 2023

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bernie Pigeon, Chair
Norma Scogin
Matt Rose
Gerald Stefanski
Dominic Cammarano
Tom Worthen
Joseph Smith
Tom Hannon
Julie Moran

Also Present: Derek Sullivan, Town Administrator (Arrived at 6:33 P.M.)

III. FINANCE COMMITTEE MATTERS

NOTE: Mr. Pigeon explained there has been a situation where minutes from various committees have not been recorded & posted in the Town Clerk's office. Thus, for verification purposes, the FinCom will vote on the following minutes, although this process may have previously been done.

NOTE: Mr. Sullivan, Town Administrator arrived at this time.

A. Acceptance of meeting minutes: 2/2/22, 2/9/22, 3/3/22, 3/9/22, 3/16/22, 3/23/22 (Upper Cape), 3/23/22, 3/30/22, 4/13/22, 4/25/22, 6/8/22 & 6/29/22.

MOTION: Mr. Smith moved to accept the meeting minutes of 2/2/22, 2/9/22, 3/3/22 & 3/9/22. Mr. Cammarano seconded.

VOTE: (6-0-0)

Mr. Hannon, Ms. Scogin & Ms. Moran abstained

MOTION: Mr. Smith moved to accept the meeting minutes of 3/16/22, 3/23/22 (Upper Cape), 3/23/22, 3/30/22, 4/13/22, 4/25/22, 6/8/22 & 6/29/22. Mr. Cammarano seconded.

VOTE: (7-0-0)

Mr. Hannon & Ms. Moran abstained

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B. Approval of meeting minutes (after reorg & new members): 7/13/22, 8/24/22, 9/14/22, 9/21/22, 9/28/22, 10/1/22, 10/5/22, 10/13/22, 10/15/22, 10/24/22, 11/10/22, 11/16/22 & 12/1/22.

MOTION: Mr. Smith moved to accept the meeting minutes of 7/13/22, 8/24/22, 9/14/22, 9/21/22, 9/28/22, 10/1/22, 10/5/22, 10/13/22, 10/15/22, 10/24/22, 11/10/22, 11/16/22 & 12/1/22. Mr. Cammarano seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous (9-0-0)

C. General discussion of FY24 w/ Town Administrator.

Mr. Sullivan proceeded to discuss & make a presentation of FY24 estimated budget w/ the following information & questions & answer session re: specific budget topics:

- Real estate taxes
- New growth & what it encompasses
- Debt exclusion (new elementary school)
- Chapter 70 funds & charter schools
- Unrestricted general government aid
- Veterans Benefits
- Veterans Agent duties
- State-owned land
- Motor vehicle excise tax trends
- Local rooms occupancy excise trends
- Boat excise trends
- Cannabis income trends
- Fee trends
- Rental trends
- Licenses/permits trends
- Solar project & income re: license/permit fees
- Fines/forfeit trends
- Investment income trends
- Medicaid trends
- Misc. recurring trends
- Estimated local receipts & reimbursement FY23 vs. FY24
- Available funds
- Enterprise Fund
- Detailed FY24 draft revenue & expenses
- New hires/health insurance
- Town contribution to schools
- Prop.2 ½

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Brief discussion ensued re: tentative date for the all-day departmental budget meeting. The FinCom concurred w/ February 16, 2023.

Brief discussion ensued re: finalized budget target date & school budget.

D. Discussion of calendar for April Town Meeting.

Mr. Pigeon noted he has asked Mr. Giberti for a year-end report for the golf course. He has also asked for a close-out for FY23 from the Town Accountant.

Mr. Pigeon noted where Town Meeting will be held is still being discussed.

Mr. Pigeon spoke re: Charter changes that have been up at the State House.

Mr. Pigeon stated he & Ms. Scogin will be speaking at the COA re: the budget process.

Mr. Smith spoke re: highlights/information relative to schools he has received. He feels there are some issues, such as substantial use of grant funds, high salaries & lack of staffing at Town Hall in the Accounting office vs. four accounting employees at the School Dept. Lengthy discussion ensued.

IV. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Unanticipated Items)

V. NEXT MEETING DATE & TIME

To be determined at a later date.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Cammarano moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 P.M. Mr. Smith seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous (9-0-0)

Date signed: _____

Attest: _____

Bernie Pigeon, Chair

WAREHAM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date copy sent to Wareham Town Clerk: _____