

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WAREHAM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: October 13, 2021

WAREHAM TOWN CLERK
2021 NOV 18 PM12:33

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bernie Pigeon, Chair
David Heard, Vice Chair
Tom Worthen
Joseph Smith
Matthew Rose
Dominic Cammarano (Arrived at approx. 6:35 P.M.)

Members Absent: Stuart Novick
Glenn Lawrence
Gerald Stefanski

Also Present: Selectman Alan Slavin

III. FINANCE COMMITTEE MATTERS

A. 2021 Fall Town Meeting Warrant

1. Article 18 –Petition - Collection of Fees/Penalties for Earth Removal

Present before the FinCom: Barry Cosgrove, Petitioner

Mr. Cosgrove discussed the intent of the article. He noted earth removal/sand removal from sites in Wareham that may have revenue opportunities for the Town.

NOTE: Mr. Cammarano arrived at this time.

Mr. Cosgrove feels the Town needs to look into this matter & see if any money is owed to the Town by permit fees/penalties. He quoted the Town's Bylaw relative to earth removal activities & procedures. He stated the Board of Selectmen have not followed the Bylaw procedures. He questioned why the Town has not inquired as to if they are owed money from earth removal projects.

Mr. Smith expressed concern re: an individual business conducting earth removal being named in the article. He again stated the Town should be monitoring earth removal projects. He has just reported on earth removal projects he has investigated. Mr. Cammarano concurred w/ Mr. Smith. Mr. Pigeon stated this is a "referendum". Discussion ensued re: having individual business names being included in the article. Mr. Pigeon feels the article is calling out a specific

Ms. _____ proceeded to make a presentation for Article 20. She discussed the intent of the article which involves repurposing the Decas School into a multi-generational community center which would provide & serve the needs of residents of all ages w/ minimal Town resources needed. She discussed the infrastructure of the school which could handle the various needs & services of the community center. She discussed the proposed operating budget, income & budget assumptions & safety valves built into the model. She discussed potential revenue through rentals & partnerships. She cited the risks of the SRPEDD Plan.

Discussion ensued re: concerns over presumptions for income & back-up plan if revenues fall short, staffing expenses & contracted maintenance expenses. Mr. Smith stated budgets cannot be assumptions. Mr. Pigeon expressed concern re: the proposed revenue schedule for this proposal in the context of the Town's revenues at this time. He doesn't see how the funds presented will sustain the operation.

Brief discussion ensued re: make-up of the proposed committee & language.

4. Article 1 – Approve & Fund FY22 Capital Plan

Mr. Heard explained there is a five year capital plan & the process for reviewing said plan. Everything does not get funded on said plan. Free Cash is typically used for capital items. The following capital items were discussed at the Capital Planning Committee meeting:

- Police Dept. equipment: \$ 55,000
- Police Dept. radio upgrades: \$ 50,000
- Police Dept. unmarked vehicle: \$ 40,000
- HS fire alarm system: \$280,000
- 3 new school buses: \$330,000
- 2 MM trucks: \$180,000
- MS4 stormwater drainage study : \$100,000
- Auditorium modifications: \$ 40,000
- New ambulance lease: \$110,000 (\$110,000 x 3 years)
- Survey of Onset Pier: \$225,000

Brief discussion ensued re: specifics for some of the above requests & not having sufficient information required for capital requests being presented to the FinCom. Selectman Slavin discussed a capital request form that departments are supposed to fill out.

MOTION: Mr. Cammarano moved that the Finance Committee must have documentation to support capital requests from the Capital Planning Committee no less than two weeks prior to the Warrant going to print.

NOTE: Mr. Cammarano withdrew the motion.

Discussion ensued.

VOTE: (1-4-1)
Mr. Rose, Mr. Smith, Mr. Worthen & Mr. Pigeon opposed
Mr. Heard abstained

Assignments were made for members to write FinCom recommendations for various articles.

2. Review previously voted articles.

- IV. LIAISON REPORTS**
- V. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Unanticipated Items)**
- VI. NEXT MEETING DATE & TIME**

The next meeting will be held on October 25, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. in the Wareham High School Auditorium.

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 P.M. Mr. Cammarano seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous (6-0-0)

Date signed: _____

Attest: _____

Bernie Pigeon, Chair

WAREHAM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date copy sent to Wareham Town Clerk: _____