

**TOWN OF ROWLEY
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of Meeting April 5, 2022
7:00 PM**

Finance Committee Attendance: Present were Larry White – Chairman, Sharon Emery – Vice Chair, Peter Censullo, Tom Corben Dennis Roy and Chip Sheerin. Pamela Bowen was not present.

Other Attendees: Deborah Eagan, Town Administrator; Treasurer/Collector Karen Summit; Police Chief Scott Dumas; and Water Commissioner Bernie Cullen

1. Call to Order – Chair Larry White called the meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 7:02 PM.
2. Reserve Fund Transfer Request for State Department of Unemployment Assistance Claim – Emery pointed to a difference in the amount requested, \$5,000, and the amount Owed, \$1,328.14. Eagan explained that the claim is ongoing and there will be more payments this year above the \$1,328.14.

Emery made a motion to approve the Reserve Fund transfer in the amount of \$5,000 to Unemployment. Roy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

3. FY23 Budgets

Debt – Treasurer/Collector Karen Summit commented that the Debt Budget items are fixed obligations for the Town.

Emery made a motion to approve the Debt FY23 Budget. Sheerin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

4. Review Town Meeting Warrant Articles – The Finance Committee reviewed and discussed the draft Town Meeting Warrant and provided recommendations where required. Roy commented on the limited time allowed for the Finance Committee to review the articles before voting on Finance Committee recommendations. After discussion and considering the tight timeframe to have the warrant printed, the consensus of the Committee was to recommend articles “from the floor” if more time was needed for any particular articles.

Article 3 – *Emery made a motion to recommend Article 3. Sheerin seconded the motion and the motion was carried by a vote of 5 in favor and 1 present (Roy).*

Article 5 – A discussion was held on the differences between the Water Department budget numbers that were approved by the Finance Committee and those presented in the Warrant Article 5. Water Commissioner Bernie Cullen addressed the discrepancies and explained that some numbers presented in the FY23 budget were estimates until actual numbers were

available. Cullen reviewed and provided explanations for each of the different numbers identified by the Finance Committee.

Emery made a motion to recommend Article 5. Censullo seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 6 – *Emery made a motion to recommend Article 6. Corben seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Article 7 – *Corben made a motion to recommend Article 7. Sheerin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Article 8 – *Emery made a motion to recommend Article 8. Corben seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Articles 9 to 11 – White called for one motion for standard Articles 9 to 11.

Corben made a motion to recommend Articles 9, 10 and 11. Emery seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 13 – *Emery made a motion to recommend Article 13. Corben seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Article 14 – *Emery made a motion to recommend Article 14. Sheerin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Article 15 – *Corben made a motion to recommend Article 15. Emery seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Article 17 – Treasurer/Collector Karen Summit explained the septic loan program and the borrowing and pay back process.

Corben made a motion to recommend Article 17. Sheerin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 18 – *Emery made a motion to recommend Article 18. Roy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Article 19 – *Corben made a motion to recommend Article 19. Roy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Article 20 – Eagan provided an explanation for the appropriation to pay a dated invoice for legal counsel.

Sheerin made a motion to recommend Article 20. Corben seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 21 – Emery made a motion to recommend Article 21. Roy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 22 – Emery made a motion to recommend Article 22. Sheerin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 23 – Corben made a motion to recommend Article 23. Emery seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 24 – Emery made a motion to recommend Article 24. Censullo seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 25 – Corben made a motion to recommend Article 25. Emery seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 26 – Chief Dumas discussed the upgrade of police portable radios to address the unreliability of the current equipment.

Corben made a motion to recommend Article 26. Sheerin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 27 – Emery made a motion to recommend Article 27. Corben seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 28 – Sheerin made a motion to recommend Article 28. Corben seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 29 – Corben made a motion to recommend Article 29. Roy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 30 – Emery made a motion to recommend Article 30. Sheerin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 31 – Corben made a motion to recommend Article 31. Emery seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 32 – Corben made a motion to recommend Article 32. Sheerin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 33 – Eagan discussed the upgrades to equipment and flooring at the Kids Kingdom play area at Eiras Park to address safety and ADA compliance issues.

Roy made a motion to recommend Article 33. Sheerin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Article 34 – *Emery made a motion to recommend Article 34. Censullo seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Article 35 – *Emery made a motion to recommend Article 35. Roy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Article 4 – A discussion was held on errors in the Council on Aging budget items. Corben pointed to corrections that Line 114 should read \$294 and Line 115 should read \$19,904.

Corben made a motion to recommend Article 4 with the corrections discussed. Emery seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

5. Minutes – No action.
6. Discuss Finance Commission Liaisons to Town Departments and Boards/Commissions – The assignment of department liaisons will be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting as well as the scope of responsibility for the liaison role.
7. Discuss Upcoming Meetings – The next meeting will be held on April 25, 2022 at 7:00 pm, jointly with the Board of Selectmen and the Water Board.
8. Adjourn – *At 8:49 pm Corben made a motion to adjourn. Emery seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Coffey
Finance Committee Secretary

Documents used at or for the meeting:

Agenda for April 5, 2022
FinCom Reserve Fund Transfer Request Unemployment 3.31.2022
Debt Schedule Form FY23
2022 ATM Warrant – TAM Revisions Draft 4.4.2022
FY23 Omnibus Draft