

## Westhampton Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

2/4/21

Meeting began at 7pm on Zoom.

Attending: Mary Cleary (Chair), Steve Holt, Pat Miller, Sarah Mulvehill, Andy Klyman, Barbara Pelissier, Jeremy Durrin, Tad Weiss, Jake Antosz (Secretary). Also attending, Dave Antosz, David White.

- 1) Vote to accept meeting minutes from 1-28-21: VOTE 9-0-0
- 2) **Library:** Some possible questions/points for the rescheduled meeting; check in on the painting project, see what MEMA funding or support there is for the library.
- 3) **Fire Department:** Purposefully did not spend \$3,000.00 from last year's budget because of uncertainty from the pandemic, and because of what the equipment testing companies were willing to do during this time.
  - Hose testing is \$3,000.00 for this year. Looking into the possibility of purchasing a hose testing machine.
  - Wildland DCR provides grants to small fire departments. Departments can purchase items for fire trucks and gear for firefighters. Todd Alexander submitted the EMPG grant that was received and will be used for new gear for firefighters.
  - Questions: How has COVID-19 impacted the department? Is there anything that you can anticipate in the near future? - The effect has been mostly on dept. trainings. Is there any anticipated cost increase on operations for the budget? - Any increases that would happen would most likely be due to costs of outside companies changing their prices for their services.  
How might the safety complex affect the budget? - No change is anticipated.
- 4) **Public Safety Building:** A vehicle exhaust system was put into the spreadsheet as a placeholder of something that may be needed depending on the future of the building. The number on the budget form is for bringing attention to the cost of that item to the town.
- 5) **EMS:** Level with previous year.
- 6) **Police Department:** About \$1,300.00 more for payroll on the updated spreadsheet. Decrease in dues/training because of Covid-19, asking for around \$4,500.00 in FY22. Vests are a separate item. In FY22 there is a new cruiser on the capital budget for \$60,000.00 which includes the vehicle and equipment in the vehicle.
  - Possible reforms in policing in the state may affect the current budget for trainings, depending upon the state's guidelines and timeline.
  - Question: Any budget change with a new station? - No change anticipated.
- 7) Meeting Dates:
  - February 25, 2021 - Highway and Transfer, Select board/Town and Capital Planning meeting
  - March 4, 2021 – Hampshire Regional and Westhampton Elementary Schools
  - March 25, 2021 and April 1, 2021 – Deliberation Dates
  - May 8, 2021 – Annual Town Meeting
- 8) Adjourn meeting: VOTE 9-0-0 8:54 PM

Respectfully,  
Jake Antosz