

Westhampton Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

3/07/2022

Meeting began at 7:00PM on Zoom.

Attending: Tad Weiss, Steve Holt, Pat Miller, Marilyn Witherell, Andy Klyman, Barbara Pelissier, Jake Antosz. Also attending, Doug Finn, Bill Jablonski, Maureen Dempsey, Phil Dowling, Teri Anderson.

Vote to accept meeting minutes from 2-28-2022: **VOTE 5-0-2**

Highway Budget:

- Administration: Expenses for uniforms, training, etc.
- New pickup truck needed, the 2009 pickup that was planned to be in service currently will not pass an inspection and has engine issues. 75,000.00 expense for new pickup truck. New tractor for 250,000.00. These items will be on the upcoming agenda on capital planning.
- Snow Removal: is currently about 8,000.00 above the spending limit of 100,000.00 primarily as a result of increasing prices for materials.
- Road machinery Maintenance: for all equipment, including upkeep, inspections, replacement parts, oil, etc.
- Road Machinery Fuel: Increased this line item to 51,000.00 as uncertainty on fuel prices. 2.50 per gallon is locked in price for the current fiscal year. This number is a preliminary as the new contract and price have not been agreed upon yet.
- Road Machinery Buildings: heating oil, electric, building maintenance for the highway garage and buildings. This number is also increased based on an increase in energy prices. Dept of utilities issued a letter that energy rates may increase.
- Transfer Station: 2.5 percent increase for expenses, trucking contract for trash removal, fees for trash compactor. Increase in salaries for Don and Andrew.
- HRMC: helps the town manage contracts and grants for trash and waste removal.

Selectboard Budget:

- Salaries: Cost of living adjustment was made for basically all salaried positions in town. 3 percent adjustment. Total impact for the year is about 2,200.00. from 2.5% to 3%
- Administrative Assistant: Planning consultant duties has been added to this position instead of a separate position. The hours have been increased to 40 hrs. per week from 30. This position is intended to be the towns 1 full time position, this position will help with and include grant writing for the town, and having someone at town offices regularly.
- IT Support: Some of these items have been moved from town office expense. These are all fairly level funded. Proposing 3,000.00 increase for new equipment such as computers for any town officials that may need updated equipment.
- Selectboard Expense: level funded.
- Document Management System: Contract expense for this system.
- Reserve Fund: for any overspent line items.
- Counsel Fees: anticipated to be lower than budgeted.
- Town Hall/Annex Repairs: anticipated for minor service and repairs.
- Animal Control Officer: position is currently unfilled. There is currently someone available strictly on an on-call basis.

- COA Coordinator increase to 20.00 an hour. Meets with lower range of similar positions in the area.

Next Meeting March 14.

Vote to adjourn meeting 9:15 PM: **VOTE:** 6-0-0.

Respectfully,
Jake Antosz