

Rockland Town Clerk's Office

July 21, 2022 5:16 p.m.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

March 23, 2022

Present at the Finance Committee meeting of March 23, 2022 were Chairman John Pumphrey, Bill Principe, Cara O'Neill, Bob MacDonald, Julie Shaffer, Linda Sternfelt, Joe Gambon, Bill Stuart and Suzie Gaines. Meghan Rooney was absent. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM. Chairman Pumphrey read aloud a statement that the meeting was being recorded by WRPS and would be broadcast on YouTube.

Also attending the meeting was Doug Lapp, Town Administrator.

Joe LaPoint and Crystal Cameron attended our meeting to discuss the budget at the Water Department. He reminded us. That the water department is a Joint Water Works with Abington. All disbursements having to do with water usage by both towns is split with Rockland paying 53% and Abington 47%. At the annual town meeting there will be an article for \$13,000,000 to pay cost of upgrades to one or more of the water treatment plants. The article also authorizes the Treasurer to borrow all or a portion of said sum.

Steve O'Donnell, chairman of the CPA committee attended our meeting to discuss the Budget of the CPA Committee and is asking for \$20,000 in Article #5 at the Special Town Meeting to cover the shortfall on the Town Hall project. There were cost increases and costs for a better design.

Also looking to fund Article 11 for \$100,000 to fund the creation of affordable housing units at the Copley Gardens in Rockland.

The chairman of the Capital Planning Committee distributed copies of the Capital Plan and the scoring sheet that is used to prioritize the Capital Needs of the town.

Jane Hackett attended to discuss and answer questions on the School Budget. The school census is expected to be 2275 students. Staff is still down 11 employees. Because of the high needs of some students the Chapter 11 money from the State will increase.

Jane took time to show and explain the comparison on this year's budget compared to last year. John thanked Jane for the effort, however that type of comparison does not give a clear picture of how the actual budget is flowing. John asked Jane to send to us a spreadsheet of the actual figures for comparison and analysis.

The finance committee then turned their attention to the Town Warrant to review and vote on each Article. On the Special Town Meeting warrant there are 14 Articles to be considered. Each Article was considered and voted on separately. A motion to approve was made by Bill Principe for each article and the motion to approve each article was seconded by Linda Sternfelt. All Articles were voted approved by unanimous votes of the full finance committee.

Respectfully,

Julie Shaffer, Secretary.

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