

Finance Committee

April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Meeting

12:07pm

*Meeting occurred both in person and via zoom (\*zoom attendees)*

Members Present: Howard Goldstein \*, Jim Newman, Tom Murphy

Also present: Emily Day, Accountant; Jeff Madison, Administrator; Rosa Parker, Library Director; Jamie Vanderhoop, Treasurer

Library Budget – budget includes wages increase (compensation plan update and COLA) and materials increase (material budget must be 20% of overall budget); overall budget is \$185,296 (10.7% increase).

Debt – payments increasing due to increase in interest (4.61% interest for FY24); budget increasing to \$93,369 (14.1%).

FY22 Free Cash – Estimated free cash is \$638,720; Free Cash formula includes net change in fund deficits which is reimbursable by the State (Chapter 90); FY22 local receipts collected was \$857,800 (exceptional); FY22 local receipt totals were discussed at length.

Warrant Articles Proposed to be Funded with Free Cash - \$585,450 (estimated); request for Treasurer to investigate cost of borrowing \$250,000 for emergency repairs on town buildings; current stabilization fund is \$155,000.

FY24 Levy Limit and Tax Levy Calculation – FY24 levy limit is estimated to be \$5,986,138; request for more detailed pie charts on what is driving the overall budget, including what parts of the budget are discretionary and not discretionary; currently budget is \$85,033 over the levy limit; FY24 proposed override request is \$110,000 (includes a little cushion); overall budget increase is 9.7%. After further investigation, Jeff noted that the MV Shellfish assessment cannot be partially funded by the Waterways fund (amount to be adjusted in the budget).

Next meeting - Monday April 10<sup>th</sup> at 12pm for final review of budget.

Other business: Suggestion to increase town revenue by adding an additional charge for short-term rentals. The State has given towns an option to add an additional 2.5% administrative fee (in addition to the 4-6% tax the town already collects). The committee requested more information about the added fee and whether other towns have voted this in. Tom requested that the administrative fee be added to the warrant to be discussed at the upcoming Select Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40pm