

Town of Weston
Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 13th, 2019

A meeting of the Finance Committee of the Town Of Weston, which was duly called and posted in compliance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, was held on Wednesday, February 13th, 2019 at the Weston Police Station. There being a quorum present the meeting was called to order at 7:03P.M.

Present for the meeting were:

Finance Committee: Lisa Reitano -Chair, John McDonald, Jim Philipkosky, Karen Meslin, James Jarrett and Bharath Venkataraman.

Also present: Leon Gaumond, Town Manager; Susan Kelley, Finance Director; Zoe Pierce, Treasurer/Collector,; Gary Jarobski, Facilities Director; Tom Cullen, DPW Director; Rich Sullivan, Deputy DPW Director; and Steve Fogg, Town Engineer.

1. There were no resident comments.
2. Karen Meslin was appointed to serve as Secretary pro-tempore and charged with keeping the minutes of the meeting.
3. The minutes of the meeting of February 7th, 2019 were unanimously approved.
4. Jim Philipkosky introduced Gary Jarobski, Facilities Director, who presented the proposed Facilities operating budget.
 - a) The proposed Facilities operating budget is a mostly level budget with some small increases requested in capital expenditures for machinery, largely to bring more work in house, giving the department greater flexibility and increased productivity. (Requested funds are to purchase tractor attachments, an additional mower, and treatment spreader and sprayer.)
 - b) There is a desire to increase the quality of grounds, which will include repairs to the sprinkler systems. Middle School Science Labs: the remaining few science lab classrooms will be completed this summer within budget.
5. Jim Philipkosky introduced Tom Cullen, DPW Director, Rich Sullivan, Deputy DPW Director and Steve Fogg, Town Engineer.

- a) Within the DPW, the Administrative Department is seeking to add a new Deputy Director of Project Management (\$120,000) to help oversee the increase in projects. The Highway Division budget includes \$28,000 for pavement markings as well as an additional \$500,000 recommended for continued roadway maintenance. Additional

proposed capital expenditures include a request for new sidewalk snow clearing equipment.

b) A major pavement management study completed in 2014 (report dated February 2015) assessed the condition of all roads in Weston (87 miles) with a Pavement Condition Index (PCI) of 1-100. Weston's target, as a result of the study, was to bring all roads to a PCI of 70 or greater. This means that all roads would be repaired to the point where they could be maintained by preventative maintenance before structural improvements are needed. On a cost basis it is much less expensive to repair a roadway before it deteriorates to below "fair" or $PCI < 70$.

c) The Water Division is an Enterprise Fund, so despite being part of the DPW, it is not included in the General Fund. (100% of the direct and indirect costs for water service are covered by water fees and charges.) The Water Enterprise capital budget includes the hydrant rehab program, water tank maintenance and water main and pipe maintenance. (Asbestos still remains in approximately 2 miles of pipe. There is no remaining lead pipe, however, there are lead links / pipe joint fittings.)

d) Southside drainage project Phase 1 is completed. Phase 2 is currently before the conservation committee. The DPW hopes to be able to perform the work this summer.

6. Discussion of 751 Boston Post Road property - Notice of Intent to convert to Residential Use.

The committee discussed this proposal, which was added to the agenda the day of the meeting. The committee took the position it does not have sufficient information to provide an opinion at this time, pending receipt and review of the property appraisal to determine the property value, the type of acreage, (buildable, wetlands, etc.), as well as the proposed use following the proposed conversion. The committee intends to provide its opinion of the proposal following review of this information.

7. School Budget Analysis - Next Steps

Lisa summarized the highlights of the subcommittee's recent meeting with Danielle Black and John Henry from the School Committee. Further discussion ensued as to how best address these school budget expenditure concerns.

8. A motion to adjourn was made, duly seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Meslin