

**TOWN OF ROWLEY
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of Meeting April 4, 2023
6:30 PM**

Finance Committee Attendance: Present were Larry White – Chairman, Sharon Emery – Vice Chair, Pamela Bowen, Peter Censullo, Tom Corben, Dennis Roy and Chip Sheerin.

Other Attendees: Town Administrator Debbie Eagan, Treasurer/Collector Karen Summit, and Parks and Recreation Committee Member David Zizza

1. Call to Order – Chair Larry White called the meeting of the Finance Committee to order at 6:30 PM.

2. FY24 Budgets

Conservation Commission – *Sheerin made a motion to accept the Conservation Commission FY23 Budget. Corben seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Animal Control and Animal Inspector Services – White explained that Rowley has joined three other communities to share animal control and inspection services and will now have access to an animal shelter. The Town will no longer employ someone for the position.

Bowen made a motion to accept the Animal Control and Animal Inspector Services FY24 Budget. Corben seconded the motion the vote was unanimous in favor.

Tree Warden – *Corben made a motion to accept the Tree Warden FY24 Budget. Roy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Shellfish Commission - *Emery made a motion to accept the Shellfish Commission FY24 Budget. Bowen seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Shellfish Constable – *Corben made a motion to accept the Shellfish Constable FY24 Budget A. Sheerin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Highway Department - *Roy made a motion to accept the Highway Department FY24 Budget. Bowen seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Snow and Ice – *Emery made a motion to accept the Snow and Ice FY24 Budget. Corben seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Council on Aging – Roy made a motion to accept the Council on Aging FY24 Budget in the amount of \$216,093. Bowen seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Parks and Recreation – Parks and Recreation Committee Member David Zizza addressed FinCom questions about the items included in the Miscellaneous line item. He explained that the category was not adequate as “Miscellaneous” and included the cost of Portable Restrooms. \$3500 was moved from Miscellaneous to Portable Restrooms leaving \$500 for miscellaneous emergency repairs or other unexpected costs.

Corben made a motion to accept the Parks and Recreation FY24 Budget. Emery seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

3. Discuss Omnibus Versions A and B – Review and acceptance of B budget requests.

Board of Assessors – Roy made a motion to accept the Board of Assessors Expenses for \$1,853. Sheerin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Town Clerk – Sheerin made a motion to accept the Town Clerk Expenses for \$307. Roy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Registrar of Voters Expenses – Roy made a motion to accept the Registrar of Voters Expenses for \$932 for census printing and mailing. Bowen seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Town Hall Expenses – Roy made a motion to accept the Registrar of Voters Expenses for \$1320. Corben seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Police Wages – Emery made a motion to accept the Police Department Wages for \$90,655. Bowen seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Police Expenses – Corben made a motion to accept the Police Department Expenses for \$8,192 for increased fuel and HVAC costs. Bowen seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Fire Department Expenses – Roy made a motion to accept the Fire Department Expenses \$3,417 for additional fuel costs. Corben seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of 6 in favor and 1 abstain (Emery).

Inspection Department Expenses – *Sheerin made a motion to accept the Inspection Expenses for \$655 for increases to codes and books. Corben seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Council on Aging Expenses – *Bowen made a motion to accept the Council on Aging Expenses for \$800. Emery seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of 6 in favor and 1 abstain (Corben).*

Historic District Commission Expenses – *Emery made a motion to accept the Historic District Commission Expenses for \$532. Bowen seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

Veterans Committee – *Emery made a motion to accept the Veterans Committee for \$550. Sheerin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.*

4. Discuss FY24 Triton Budget – Roy commented on the vote taken at the March 28, 2023 meeting to not recommend the proposed Triton budget. He said the Finance Committee should recommend an alternative assessment. Chairman of the Board of Selectmen commented on the limited tax base available to support the proposed Triton budget. Roy and Sheerin shared their proposed assessments and how they were calculated. [Roy proposed an assessment of \$627,312 and Sheerin proposed \$489,396.]

Emery made a motion to table Omnibus to April 5, 2023. Bowen seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of 6 in favor and 1 opposed (Roy).

5. Review ATM Warrant – Eagan commented that the FY23 numbers in Article 5 Water Department budget were incorrect. Water Superintendent Bob Gray said he would work with Water Commissioner Bernie Cullen to make the corrections and return to the April 5, 2023 meeting for approval.

Corben made a motion to table the Water Department Article 5. Emery seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Emery recommended postponing review of the ATM Warrant to the April 5, 2023 meeting.

6. Report by Liaison Members on their Departments – no action.
7. Minutes – no action.
8. Discuss Upcoming Meetings – The next meeting is scheduled for April 5, 2023.

9. Adjourn – At 7:49 pm Emery made a motion to adjourn. Bowen seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Coffey
Finance Committee Secretary

Documents used at or for the meeting:

Agenda for April 4, 2023

FY 24 Budgets

- Conservation Commission
- Animal Control and Animal Inspector Services
- Tree Warden
- Shellfish Commission
- Shellfish Constable
- Highway Department
- Snow and Ice
- Council on Aging
- Parks and Recreation Committee

FY2024 Omnibus Budget