

## **MONTAGUE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **Final Minutes**

**Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**

**This meeting was held via Zoom and recorded: <https://vimeo.com/788480894>**

**PRESENT:** Vice Chair, Gregory Garrison, Clerk Dorinda Bell-Upp, Chris Menegoni, John Hanold and Fred Bowman, members; Accountant Carolyn Olsen; Assistant Town Administrator Walter Ramsey, CIC member Ariel Elan and Scribe BettyLou Mallet.

**ABSENT:** Francia Wisnewski and Jennifer Waryas, Finance Committee members.

**1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Finance Committee Vice-Chair Gregory Garrison. Roll call of Finance Committee members; there was a quorum. The meeting is being recorded by CO as well as aired on MCTV. GG stated any future meetings with the Capital Improvements Committee (CIC) on the agenda will be posted as a dual meeting as Ariel and Chris are on the CIC and therefore, a quorum.

**2. REVIEW OF MEETING MINUTES: January 4, 2023** – The members received the draft minutes. No questions or comments. **On a motion by JH and second by FB, the minutes of January 4, 2023 were approved as written. FB, aye; JH, aye; CM, aye; DB-U, aye; GG, aye.**

**3. CIC UPDATE** – GG stated the Special Town Meeting articles were the main focus at today's CIC meeting. The CIC will meet again on January 25 to discuss any updates to the STM as well as the ATM. Walter Ramsey shared his screen showing the Winter FY23 STM Capital and Non-Capital Requests for the members to review. As of today's date, there are 7 requests for the STM warrant. Clean Water Facility (CWF) articles are the screw pump replacement and the transit van. The DPW has a new pick-up truck with a plow/sander, one-ton truck and the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Rehab engineering. The Building Assessors have an inspection services vehicle request on the warrant. The Selectboard placed the Colle building roof replacement project on the STM warrant as well as the Library has a feasibility study for the main library in Turners Falls. Walter stated the library request may be removed as the Massachusetts Library Building Commission has expressed interest for the Town to place the feasibility study through their program rather than through the Town's warrant. For non-capital requests, the Parks and Recreation has placed the Montague Center Blacksmith Shop Building evaluation as well as the Unity Skate Park sealing on the warrant. GG stated after today's CIC meeting, the costs for the Colle roof has decreased, the transit van will be a hybrid and the CWF Superintendent provided an exceptional background regarding the cost increase towards the screw pumps. JH asked about the inspection vehicle and who's jurisdiction it would fall under. Walter Ramsey stated the DPW will maintain the vehicle even though it will be utilized by three departments within the town hall.

**4. DECIDE WHICH DEPARTMENTS TO MEET WITH AND WHAT QUESTIONS TO SEND TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

**5. REVIEW AND UPDATE BUDGET CALENDAR**

**6. UPDATES FROM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

**7. PREP FOR JANUARY 31 JOINT MEETING WITH GILL AND GMRSD**

CO discussed all of the above agenda items with the members of the committee. She placed the revised budget calendar on the screen for all to review. She felt that there should not be a meeting on January 18 and to focus on the draft STM warrant and the final Excess Capacity amount on the 25<sup>th</sup>. The joint

budget meeting with Gill and GMRSD will be held on January 31, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the School Committee room at the high school. This meeting will be held in person.

On February 1, the DPW and STM financial articles will be discussed. February 8 will be Public Safety and Board of Health. February 15 will be the Selectboard, Board of Assessors and Tax Collector. On February 22, the meeting will be held with the CWF and the Airport.

**8. FUTURE MEETING TOPICS** - CO updated the committee about the scribe position. A draft ad has been constructed and sent to Francia Wisniewski and Jennifer Waryas for their input. Once finalized, it will be advertised by the end of the month.

**9. TOPICS NOT ANTICIPATED WITHIN 48 HOURS OF POSTING** – None

**10. ADJOURNMENT** – On a motion by FB and second by JH, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m. JH, aye; FB, aye; DB-U, aye; CM, aye; GG, aye.

Respectfully submitted,  
BettyLou Mallet  
Scribe

Approved by Montague Finance Committee – January 25, 2023