



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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Finance Committee

February 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes 7:00 pm, via Zoom

Attendees:

Present:

E. Callahan, D. Comastra, C. Hodgens, D. Madigan, P. Maloney, C. Strapponi, K. Wilson

Absent:

P. Maloney, D. Piatt

The Finance Committee meeting was opened at 7:03 pm by Chris Hodgens.

Votes:

The minutes of January 19, 2022 were presented. All voted in favor with Dennis Madigan and Colleen Strapponi abstaining due to absence.

Events:

1. Introduction of Finance Committee Applicant

The Chair introduced Ian Michelson to the Committee. He recently moved to Hopedale from Milford and is interested in being more involved with events going on in town. His background includes marketing, budgeting and planning. His talent bank form will be on the Select Board agenda for their upcoming meeting for official appointment.

2. Discussion of Potential Budget Impacts

- a. Diana Schindler has begun work on known amounts in a variety of areas impacting the budget for the upcoming year.
- b. The Select Board is looking to the Finance Committee to set the tone for salary and wage increases. Several bargaining unit's contracts remain unsettled, but the intention is for all contracts to be settled prior to Town Meeting in May 2022. April 23, 2022 is the target date for the warrant to be completed. An amount of 5% was discussed for non-represented employees.
- c. Receipts from marijuana sales were discussed:
 - i. ~\$21,000 from Caroline's Cannabis
 - ii. ~\$45,000 from High Hopes
- d. A goal of March 2, 2022 was set for a meeting with the School Department to discuss its budget recommendations. Other departments will be scheduled, thereafter. Diana will work with the remaining departments to have their budget requests documented by February 25, 2022.

- e. Ken Wilson requested capital planning be woven into the discussions early on, as well.

The Committee will meet on Wednesday March 2, 2022 at 7:00pm.

The Chair called the meeting to Adjournment at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth S. Callahan

Recording Secretary
Hopedale Finance Committee