



## **TOWN OF HOPEDALE**

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7  
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### ***Finance Committee***

#### **March 2, 2022, Meeting Minutes 7:00 pm, via Zoom**

##### **Attendees:**

###### *Present:*

E. Callahan, D. Comastra, C. Hodgens, D. Madigan, I. Michelson, K. Wilson

###### *Absent:*

P. Maloney, D. Piatt, C. Strapponi

The Finance Committee meeting was opened at 7:04 pm by Chris Hodgens.

##### **Votes:**

1. The minutes of February 9, 2022 were presented. All voted in favor.
2. Transfer of \$21,000 from the reserve account in the Water & Sewer Enterprise fund. All voted in favor.

##### **Events:**

1. Water & Sewer Department Request for Reserve Transfer  
Due to an equipment failure a request for transfer of ~\$21,000 was requested. This will be covered by the ~\$75,000 in the reserve account of the enterprise fund. All voted in favor.
2. Discussion of Potential Budget Impacts
  - a. The joint meeting with the School Committee to discuss their FY23 budget request has been postponed to March 9, 2022 at 7:00pm.
  - b. Diana Schindler sent a zip file with multiple files from various departments. The Committee appreciated the commentary and detail provided. The documents will be used in upcoming meetings with departments to discuss their requests in detail.
  - c. Diana Schindler commented on the amount of infrastructure required in town with the change in demographics and growth the need for future overrides to accommodate a multitude of needs.
  - d. Receipts from marijuana sales were discussed. The FY22 budget was crafted with a conservative number of ~\$90,000; Diana Schindler advised ~\$100,000 is an optimistic number for actual receipts for FY22.
3. The Committee will continue to meet on Wednesday evenings throughout the budget development cycle with a goal of one hour per meeting with 2 smaller departments per meeting.

4. Diana Schindler verbally shared a preliminary draft of warrant articles for the Special Town Meeting on March 26, 2022. The Committee did not discuss the list. Included were:
  - a. Clerical Union 2-year contract at 4%
  - b. Fire F/T and Call – not ready to move forward
  - c. Water Department – retained earnings to cover contracts
  - d. West Street
  - e. Acceptance of Land
  - f. Fire Chief Car
  - g. Police Cruiser
  - h. Electronic Permitting System
  - i. Lease Expenses
  - j. Additional Staff – Assistant Accountant

The Committee will meet on Wednesday March 9, 2022, at 7:00pm.

The Chair called the meeting to Adjournment at 8:58pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elizabeth S. Callahan*

Recording Secretary  
Hopedale Finance Committee