

## Finance Committee November 12, 2020 Meeting Minutes

**Remote participation:** Finance Committee members; Chairman Rob Hannemann, Eric Glasgow, Susan Murphy, Bruce Golden, and Don Leopold. Vicky Divoll and Marshall Carroll were not present Others: Town Administrator Tim Carroll, Fire Chief Jeremy Bradshaw, Tri Town Ambulance Chief Ben Retmier, Harbormaster Ryan Rossi, Highway Superintendent Keith Emin, Town Accountant Ellen Biskis and Diana DeBlase

At 5:02 PM Chairman Hannemann called meeting to order on the Zoom meeting platform.

### Review COLA:

FinCom members reviewed the recommendation from the Chilmark Human Resources Board. The figure using the format that Chilmark uses is 1.4% increase. Mr. Carroll said the Board of Selectmen have received this and approved figure be forwarded to Accountant to include in the FY22 budget process. Chairman Hannemann asked for a motion to support the COLA increase for FY22. Mr. Golden moved, Mr. Leopold seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 5 Ayes , 2 Not present**

### Report on CIP (Capital Improvement Plans) Requests:

Chairman Hannemann said lets have the FinCom members have a chance to review these and if we have concerns we can discuss at our next meeting. Approved conditionally with review of details.

***With the department heads present each gave a brief outline of their CIP reports.***

Harbor – Harbormaster Ryan Rossi said the Dutcher Dock replacement will cost over 1 million dollars. Harbormaster Rossi gave a brief outline of proposals to combat sea-level rise. No cost estimates yet had a company come to site today to create a proposal. Bellingham Marine and John Packer 2 different plans and will have figures soon. Harbormaster would recommend floating docks.

Susan Murphy the FinCom liaison to harbor will review these details.

Fire Department –Fire Chief Jeremy Bradshaw said he is requesting permission to purchase an F150 vehicle for \$50,000.00 that is listed as an item on the FORM CIP-1

Mr. Glasgow asked if we are we able to have a town meeting. Mr. Carroll said we are assuming 2 separate town meetings.

Tri Town Ambulance –Ambulance Chief Ben Retmier Replace Charley 90 then every 5 to 6 years replace vehicles in a rotation schedule. Chief Retmier pointed out that the Oxygen machine is additional to building project. There was discussion about getting them filled at other town stations. Chief Retmire said he has confirmed that the other towns systems cannot handle anymore additional tank filling.

Highway Department- Highway Superintendent Keith Emin discussed the 4 items on the CIP for the Highway Department.

1. Paving is 2 of them building behind landfill when move from peaked hill and vehicle. There was discussion of state aid for paving. Mr. Emin confirmed that there is a 500 foot pull (of asphalt) is minimum for use of state aid.

Review of MVRHS field design warrant article:

Chairman Hannemann gave a brief context for this discussion. Chairman Hannemann shared his screen of the Town Warrant Article that had an article for the design of the athletic field. The FinCom liaison to the MVRHS and Superintendent's Budget reviewed this and believed that approved funds can only be used for the stated purpose. Chairman Hannemann said Ms. Divoll could not be present tonight but shared with him that it seems as though the funds have also been spent for additional field and field house and tight tank (septic tank) and a thousand person grandstand. Some believe school has gone off and spent funding they don't have authorization to spend. Chairman Hannemann said we have 3 options.

- 1.) do nothing
- 2.) Make expression of concern to the school committee and have Selectmen send in letter
- 3.) Request that all unspent money be returned to the towns

There was discussion. Chairman Hannemann recommended some kind of process to write or edit future warrants to give towns more control. Mr. Carroll said last year was first time school came to process for E&D. Chairman Hannemann said he is concerned with establishing a precedent of the schools spending appropriated E&D funds on items other than those called out in the relevant warrant article. Mr. Leopold said Vicky Divoll should be part of this discussion. Ms. Murphy asked who sets the policy for E&D to be returned to towns. Mr. Carroll replied that the school committees, including our town representative, make this decision. Chairman Hannemann moved to confer with Board of Selectmen on this. Ms. Murphy seconded the motion. **SO VOTED: 5 Ayes 2 not present**

At 5:53 with no further items for discussion meeting was adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diana DeBlase.

**Approved 01/20/2021**

Document list:

- COLA figures for FY22
- CIP for Tri Town Ambulance department, Harbor Department, Fire Department, Highway Department
- Excerpt of Chilmark Town meeting warrant article for funding the MVRHS athletic Field plans.