Draft Newbury Finance Committee Minutes for 1 March 2022

Attending in person were Linda Allen, Joe Ali, Tom Howard, Frank Visconte, Erica Jacobsen (Chair) and Marshall Jespersen. A quorum thus being established the meeting was called to order at 7:02 by chairman Jacobsen. Also attending via zoom were Joe Ali and Tom Howard.

Public Comment: Jim Moran made comment on the costs of the schools and the budget for the school. He suggested that the budget for the schools be held to last year’s level. He also noted the magnitude of the future liabilities. He requested that the Finance Committee make his suggested changes. Jim suggested that we make a more comprehensible presentation of the TRSD budget to present to the town at the ATM.

A motion was made by Marshall Jespersen to accept the minutes of the 1 February 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Linda Allen. Members voting:

Erica Jacobsen, Approved

Tom Howard Approved

Linda Allen Approved

Marshall Jespersen Approved

Frank Visconti Approved

Joe Ali Approved

The current financial statements were distributed for the 6 month point in the fiscal year. The revenues and expenditures are in line with where we are in the year.

DCC: There was a meeting to look at the budget which was a high water budget, there was no push back or comment on the budget from any citizens save Jim Moran.

CPC: The minutes of the last meeting were presented to the committee:

Draft Minutes for the Newbury Capital Planning Committee, 3 February 2022

Police Department.

Construction of a records archive room and squad room for Newbury Police at the station.

$45,000 Score 38

Chief Lucey explained that there is a need for secure records storage and a squad room where personnel can bunk in when there is a need for them to be at the station for extended periods of time. The renovation cost was an estimate provided by a contractor and not a hard or contracted price.

Replacement of an administrative cruiser

$40,000 Score 26

This is the programed replacement of this vehicle in accordance with our capital replacement plan.

Purchase of 4 deployable solar powered RADAR signs

$12,000 Score 22

Chief Lucey told the committee that these signs have been very effective in other municipalities in “calming” traffic. The signs are self contained and can be moved to different locations as the need dictates. They also can record time, traffic and speed.

Purchase of 3 solar powered crosswalk signs

$9,000 Score 19

These signs would be deployed on Plum Island. The committee recommended that one of the signs go to the school crossing at Hanover Street.

Purchase of a gas powered Trash Pump for Harbormaster

$800 Score 26

The pump would be used to clean the launch ramp and to be able to dewater boats in danger of sinking. (This item was removed from our list as it falls below the cost threshold for CPC items.)

Tuff Book laptop for Harbormaster.

$3,500 Score 25

The computer would be used to check on boat registrations in real time, to be able to issue citations, etc. There might be an income component to this request, but it is not factored into the request as our thought is amount would be very small. The FC questioned the return on the investment for this piece of equipment.

Replacement truck for Shellfish Constable

$30,000 Score 34

This is to replace an existing truck that was passed on to the shellfish warden from the DPW.

Fire Department

Cardiac monitor replacement, score

$40,000 Score 35

The present monitor is no longer supported by the manufacturer. If the unit fails we are without one until it can be repaired.

DPW

Continuation of the refurbishing of the NES roof (year 3 of 5)

$100,000 Score 34

This is a continuing project, so far it has gone well. This is the planned progression of that project.

Replacement of a 6-wheel dump truck with plow and spreader

$240,885 Score 34

The new truck is a replacement for a truck that is now 15 years old. Some new items have been added to make it more versatile for snow removal and road sanding and salting.

Information Technology

Fiber Optic Cable connecting all departments. Future consideration.

$300,000 Score 32

This project would give us a highspeed hard connection for all of the town facilities. More on this in the future, but it is on our radar for a future funding round.

Server refresh.

$20,000 Score 22

The servers we have need to be updated with new licensing and more current software.

Replacement of computers

$12,000 Score 27

This is to replace computers that have reached, and in some cases surpassed, their end of usefulness.

The members approved the expenditures and forward them to the Finance Committee for their action.

Marshall will bring more information to our next meeting before we vote on the expeditures.

Tentative budgets were passed out to the committee for review, the committee will review the expenditures at the joint meeting with the Select Board at their joint meeting on the 22nd of March.

There was no new business before the committee.

The next meeting is the 22nd of March, a joint meeting with the select board.

There being no other business before the committee a motion to adjourn being made by Marshall Jespersen and seconded by Linda Allen, a vote was taken:

Erica Jacobsen, Yes

Joe Ali Yes

Tom Howard Yes

Linda Allen Yes

Marshall Jespersen Yes

Frank Visconti Yes

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52.