**MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**February 21, 2023**

**Approved 3-28-23**

**Present**: Joshua Morse, Chair; Dan Yarumian, Vice Chair; Don Marean

**Absent:** Shelly Brooks

**Other Attendees:** Dave McCubrey, Mary Hoffman, Jack Rogala (Zoom), Select Board; Heather Sullivan & Allison Morse on Zoom, Angela Mackie, Kathleen Kendrick, Janet Gilmore, Jackie Dwyer, John Mattor, Nancy Olds, Gus Hedden, Jane Piecuch, Carla Bade Turner, Lynn Ericson

**Call to Order:** A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.

**Review of Minutes:** Minutes for February 7, 2023, were approved by a

vote of 3-0-0. Motion to Approve: Marean, 2nd: Yarumian

**Unfinished Business:**

1. Follow up answers-McCubrey
2. 1000 Welfare/GA Budget-$77,690-Presented by Hoffman

Hoffman explained that the Town is required to fund this budget. The increase is due to the Cost of Living increases and now funding Asylum Seekers. Hoffman also recommended that an explanation should be added to the warrant explaining the increase and now reimbursement revenue account being set up.

Motion to Approve: Yarumian, 2nd: Marean, Carried 3-0-0

1. 0800 Salmon Falls Library-$38,800-Presented by Hoffman

Hoffman explained the budget being lower due to a decrease in book purchases and subscriptions. Librarian Ericson brought up needing a new computer but it was determined that here is money left in the current year budget that could cover it.

Motion to Approve: Marean, 2nd: Yarumian, Carried 3-0-0

**New Business:**

**2023-2024 Budget Reviews:**

1. 0810 Hollis Center Library $29,000/$35,150-Presented by Hoffman

Hoffman explained that the proposed decrease is to offset the money the Select Board feels should be financed by the Town of Dayton. Mackie says Dayton also gives some funding to the Lyman Library. Doesn’t know how much. Dwyer asked about both libraries being public and what would happen to the buildings if one was closed. McCubrey explained the Salmon Falls is Town owned and Hollis Center Public Library is privately owned. Morse said that is not something to be determined at this meeting if it happens. Kendrick says there are 33 adults and 15 Children as patrons from Dayton. Morse asked about charging for a library card. Answer was they don’t charge. Kendrick says the reductions in library budgets was supposed to go to consultants/etc. McCubrey said he never agreed to that. Mackie asked why the budget can’t be raised and if it continues to decrease they might have to close. Marean asked about amending up to the full $35,150 amount requested. Marean/Yarumian made the motion to amend and increase the Finance Committee recommendation to $35,150.

Motions to Approve: Marean, 2nd: Yarumian, Carried 3-0-0

1. 0300 Fire Department $1,167,183 Presented by Chief Young

Morse asked about budget increase and increase in calls. Chief young spoke about the call increase and some of the notable budget increases. Morse asked about the addition of a new service called a warming center. Chief Young explained that he would like to use the Community Building in an emergency and would have to pay employees to be there. Morse asked about the capital expense for hoses. Chief Young explained that many are aging and need to be replaced on a schedule. Yarumian asked if TIF funds could be used for the hoses. Chief Young responded that hoses are more of an operational cost. Marean noted that the fuel costs are running above budget. Chief Young responded that it will impact other budget lines this current year. Yarumian asked about FEMA reimbursements for extraordinary events. Chief Young explained that we have received some in the past, however the latest event may not reach the threshold. Marean asked about the increase for “Admin” wages. Chief Young explained that he needs some more good help in that position, however, the Select Board had asked him to cut his original request of 40 hours to 24 hours.

Motion to Approve: Yarumian, 2nd: Marean, Carried 3-0-0

1. 0100 Administration $179,750

Morse asked why the audit line had decreased and McCubrey explained that is what we received for a quote. Morse asked about the expenditure request for Outside services increasing. McCubrey explained it was for coding and legal checking of our ordinances. Select Board Administrative Assistant, Bennet Flinner, further clarified the process and spoke about the pricing. Not sure on pricing for maintenance.

Motion to Approve: Marean, 2nd: Yarumian, Carried 3-0-0

1. 0101 Broadcasting $9,500

Motion to Approve: Marean, 2nd: Yarumian, Carried 3-0-0

1. 0150 Legal Fees $25,000

Motion to Approve: Marean, 2nd: Yarumian, Carried 3-0-0

1. 1800 Animal Control $15,650

Morse asked about the current Buxton coverage for ACO. McCubrey explained that we are paying an hourly fee to them through their police department. McCubrey also said the Shelter contract fee is the same this time.

Motion to Approve: Yarumian, 2nd: Marean, Carried 3-0-0

1. 2200 Planning Board $16,916

Motion to Approve: Yarumian, 2nd: Marean, Carried 3-0-0

1. 2500 Code Enforcement $97,700

Motion to Approve: Marean, 2nd: Yarumian, Carried 3-0-0

1. Non Municipal $15,500

Motion to Approve: Marean, 2nd: Yarumian, Carried 3-0-0

**Opening on Finance Committee:**

Morse mentioned this opening.

**Public Comment:** None

**Plan for next Meeting:**

March 28, 2023 at 7PM

**Adjourn:** 8:15 PM

Minutes submitted by Dave McCubrey, Interim Secretary