

Holden Finance Committee, April 3, 2024, Senior Center  
F/Y25 Budget Review and Discussion

Members Present: Paul Challenger, Chris Lucchsi, Al Berg, Dave White, Jane Titcomb, Stephanie Adams, Donna Wallace, Sarah Concannon, Marilynn Foley

Also Present: Peter Lukes, Town Manager, Tim Sherblom, Police Chief, Linda Long Bellil, WRSDC

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

Peter discussed the Capital Exclusion with the Committee. He suggested some changes: reducing the playground amount to \$100,000.00 for equipment only, with the work can be done in house instead of hiring someone to do it; adding \$50,000.00 towards the ambulance purchase and including \$120,000 for the Senior Center parking lot study and to begin work on the project. Left unchanged was the \$200,000.00 for connecting the Dawson modular to the main building. Peter will present the changes to the BOS at a special meeting on Friday, April 5, 2024, where Paul will represent the FinCom. A motion by Dave 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephanie to approve the new total for a capital exclusion for \$690,00.00 was voted in favor 7-2 (opposed Al, Marilynn).

Peter reported there is a petition on the warrant from a citizen for \$50,000.00 to study upgrading and expanding the Senior Center or to build a new center. The Committee did not take a position on this article.

The Committee began looking at department budgets and to take votes on those budgets. Donna passed out two sheets, one proposing some possible deductions in departmental budgets and one showing reductions in computer purchases to reflect price changes.

A motion by Dave 2<sup>nd</sup> by Donna to approve the Moderator Budget of \$165.00 was voted unanimously.

A motion by Dave 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jane to approve the revised Finance Committee Reserve Fund of \$150,000.00 (removed \$1,800) was voted unanimously.

A motion by Dave 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephanie to approve the Selectmen Budget of \$40,404.00 was voted unanimously.

A motion by Dave 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jane to approve the Town Manager Budget of \$759,667.00 was voted unanimously.

A motion by Jane 2<sup>nd</sup> by Donna to approve the revised IT Budget of \$399,971.00 (removed \$3,774) was voted unanimously.

A motion by Stephanie 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sarah to approve the Insurance Budget of \$2,602,226.00 was voted unanimously.

A motion by Donna 2<sup>nd</sup> Stephanie to approve the Legal Budget of \$323,000.00 was voted unanimously.

A motion by Jane 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marilynn to approve the revised Accounting Budget of \$297,300.00 (removed \$2,500.00) was voted unanimously.

A motion by Marilynn 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jane to approve the Treasurer/Collector Budget of \$331,081.00 was voted

unanimously.

A motion by Donna 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sarah to approve the Retirement Budget of \$2,718,872.00 was voted unanimously.

A motion by Stephanie 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jane to approve the Debt Budget of \$4,144,577.29 was voted unanimously.

A motion by Donna 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sarah to approve revised the Assessors Budget of \$277,483.00 (removed \$2,000.00) was voted unanimously.

A motion Stephanie 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sarah to approve the revised Town Clerk Budget of \$375,848.00 (removed \$9,335.00) was voted unanimously.

A motion Donna 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephanie to approve the revised Planning and Development Budget of \$262,407.00 (removed \$1,000.00) was voted unanimously.

A motion by Paul 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marilynn to approve the Sealer of Weights and Measures Budget of \$6,000.00 was voted unanimously.

A motion by Al 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jane to reduce the police maintenance line by \$2,500.00 was voted unanimously.

A motion by Marilynn 2<sup>nd</sup> by Al to approve the revised Police Department budget of \$2,892,984.00 was voted unanimously.

A motion by Al 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephanie to approve the revised Animal Control Budget of \$92,762.00 (removed \$1,000.00 vehicle maintenance) was voted unanimously.

A motion by Dave 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jane to approve the revised Dispatch Budget of \$936,042.00 (removed \$500.00 for computers) was voted unanimously,

A motion by Stephanie 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marilynn to approve the Fire Department Budget of \$2,753,015.00 was voted in favor 6-3 (opposed Al, Chris, Dave).

A motion by Donna 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephanie to approve the Community Risk Reduction Budget of \$202,056.00 was voted in favor 8-1 (opposed Al).

A motion by Stephanie 2<sup>nd</sup> by Donna to approve the Public Safety Building Budget of \$240,500.00 was voted unanimously.

A motion by Dave 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephanie to approve the minutes of March 26, 2024 was voted unanimously.

A motion by Donna 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephanie to approve the minutes of March 27, 2024 was voted unanimously (abstained Jane, Sarah).

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P. M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marilynn Foley, Clerk