

Town of Washington
Board of Finance
April 15, 2024

Present: Members: Craig Schoon, Ted Bent, Elizabeth Fenton, Matt Cain
Alternates: Phyllis Allen, Patrick Horan
Selectmen: James Britton, Dean Sarjeant, Jay Hubelbank
Treasurer: Ashley Judson - Absent
Guest: Cory Iacino, Assessor, Donna Alex, Tax Collector
Leslie Anderson, Joan Lodson, Michelle Gorra, Judy Gorra, Rebecca
Rebillard
Press: Ann Jamieson

Chairman Craig Schoon called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m. Alternates Phyllis Allen and Patrick Horan were seated for the absent Sally Cornell and Barbara Brown.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of March 18, 2024 by Ted Bent, seconded by Craig Schoon, and unanimously approved. A motion to approve the minutes of April 1, 2024 by Ted Bent, seconded by Craig Schoon, and unanimously approved

Tax Collector: Donna Alex, Tax Collector reported;

- Collection rate at March 31st is 99.48%
- Correct Comment on Voices articles. Everyone gets a bill and delinquent taxpayers get delinquent demands and phone calls. They are all informed that taxes are due.
- Liens are put on Real Estate property not paid. After the 67 intent to lien letters went out only 20 properties ended up with liens, of which 4 are on the suspense list because they have unknown owners – Small parcels.
- A suspense list was presented and a motion to approve by Ted Bent, seconded by Liz Fenton, and unanimously approved the suspense list in the amount of \$4,816.04. On the suspense list there is a reason code for each account that is suspended most are motor vehicle.

Assessor: Cory Iacino, Assessor.

- James Brinton, First Selectman wanted to praise Cory for her work this year with the reval being a very difficulty year. Cory encouraged anyone with questions about the reval to call the assessor office.

Treasurer: - No Comments

Selectman Report: No report

Financial Reports:

- We have received the money for the Ambulance building renovations. We will be sending it to a STIF account because it will earn better interest until the construction.
- The overage from the audit will be coming from the school in the next month. Around \$300,000.
- Electricity at the town hall will go over budget due to the loan for the new lighting that was installed.
- EV Charge is off due the sim card that is install in the unit has been shut off by Juice Bar due to them going out of business. We are in the process of fixing the situation.
- Board of Education budget referendum is May 7th.

Old Business:

- A motion to approve the 2024-2025 Budget and send it to the Town hearing by Phyllis Allen, seconded by Liz Fenton and unanimously approved. Final budget is a 3.39% increase. The School budget is 4.26% increase but our portion is only a 1.49% increase. The housing trust will receive \$150,000 in the budget and there is a conveyance of \$100,000 from land sale that will be a vote at the town meeting.

New Business:

- A motion to appoint Charles Heaven & Co. for the 2023-2024 audit was made by Craig Schoon, seconded by Ted Bent and unanimously approved.
- To amend ARPA funding approvals made at the March 24, 2022 Special Town Meeting: At the March 24, 2022 Special Town Meeting approval was granted to fund \$14,000 to purchase and stock a climate controlled mobile trailer for use in the event of a town-wide emergency and \$21,000 to purchase and stock a storage container for traffic cones, barricades, signs, etc. The information was submitted incorrectly. Motion: To approve \$21,000 to purchase and stock a climate controlled mobile trailer for use in the event of a town-wide emergency and \$14,000 to purchase and stock a storage container for traffic cones, barricades, signs, etc. and to forward to a Town Meeting. By Ted Bent, seconded by Phyllis Allen and unanimously approved.

A motion to adjourn at 5:30 by Ted bent, seconded by Phyllis Allen and unanimously approved.

Town Hearing: May 2, 2024

Board of Education referendum May 7, 2024

Next Meeting: Special Meeting May 6' 2024 and Monthly Meeting May 20, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Kennedy Gomez
Finance Director