## **Town of Williamsburg**

Finance Committee Minutes Town Hall 20 April 2023

Finance Committee Members Present: Paul Wetzel, Julia Peters, Melissa Zawadzki, Charles Dudek, Eric Cerreta, Gordon Allen, Lisa Sheehy Finance Committee Members Absent: Gil Loud, Richard Kisloski Town Administrator, Nick Caccamo William Sayre, Select Board

The meeting was called to order by P. Wetzel at 6:05 p.m.

P. Wetzel initiated a discussion on how the Committee should approach labor increases from all of the departments should be handled. Should the Committee look at each department and compare current salary earnings with the Salary Survey Pay Comparison compiled in the UMASS compensation study? Or should the Committee recommend a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) only for all employees? Or some action in between. E. Cerreta felt that a 5% COLA was fair and would prevent department infighting. It is also the relatively cheaper option, costing \$57,980. G. Allen also agreed that a 5% COLA is the right approach. He did not feel that this was the year to change the pay structure of the Town's employees. L. Sheehy said that Social Security 8.7% this year.

N. Caccamo pointed out that an employee that currently makes \$15.97/hr would see their salary increase \$0.80/hr with a 5% COLA while higher paid employees will see a much bigger increase in salary. Other members said that it would be helpful to know all the Town employee positions, how many hours they worked and their salary rate hourly and annually. N. Caccamo agreed to provide the Committee with an employee compensation chart for the next meeting.

There was a general discussion on the topic of whether the Town should hire a full time Fire Chief. Should the Town hire a full-time chief or increase resources for administration. W. Sayre asked for a "straw" vote from the Committee as to whether members would recommend a full time chief. Six members said no; one was undecided.

Minutes from the meeting held 13 April 2023 were reviewed. E. Cerreta moved to approve the minutes with changes; J. Peters seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority; L. Sheehy abstained.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held 27 April 2023 at 6:00 at the Town offices.

There being no further business before the Committee, C. Dudek moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by M. Zawadzki. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul R. Wetzel