

Town of Williamsburg

Finance Committee Minutes

Town Hall 4 May 2023

Finance Committee Members Present: Paul Wetzel, Julia Peters, Melissa Zawadzki, Charles Dudek, Eric Cerreta, Gordon Allen, Lisa Sheehy, Richard Kisloski

Finance Committee Members Absent: Gil Loud

Town Administrator, Nick Caccamo

William Sayre, Select Board

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

N. Caccamo reviewed the budget actions of the Select Board (SB) in their meeting that morning. The SB supported moving forward with all the requested pay raises for those departments that requested them. The SB also supported moving to a full time Fire Chief.

Members of the Committee were surprised at these SB actions. Committee members thought that Finance Committee would recommend a comprehensive wage adjustment using the UMASS wage study as a guide to the SB. Increasing the wages of those departments that requested them and giving increases in a haphazard manner was deemed poor business practice by the Committee. W. Sayre stated that he expected that the SB and Finance Committee will have a joint meeting, consider both proposals and work out the details of salary adjustments.

The Committee agreed that the Town could afford to spend between \$70,000 to \$80,000 on wage adjustments (including COLA) this fiscal year. A sub-committee (PW, MZ, and LS) was charged with finalizing the wage adjustments to be recommended to the SB, looking for discrepancies, and determining the difference between the requested annual wage of each employee and the Committee's recommendation.

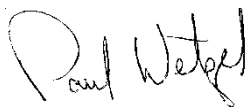
The Committee also discussed the idea of expanding the part time fire chief position to a full-time position. Committee members recognize that more help is needed to fulfill the responsibilities of the Department. They also recognize that it is increasingly difficult to find new volunteers, especially those that could respond during daytime working hours. However, economically it would be better to put a wage line for additional full time firefighter to make inspections and respond to day calls and not to have the highest paid member of the department do these tasks.

Minutes from the meeting held 27 April 2023 were reviewed. M. Zawadzki moved to approve the minutes with changes; J. Peters seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority with R. Kisloski abstaining.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held 11 May 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 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul R. Wetzel