

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
April 24, 2023

Present: Michael Molisse, Chairman
Christopher Heffernan, Vice Chairman
Pascale Burga, Councilor
Maureen Kiely, Councilor
Greg Shanahan, Councilor

Also Present: Dan McCormack, Health Department Director
Keryn Jacobs, Substance Use Prevention Coordinator
Brian Connolly, Town Auditor
Richard McLeod, Town Solicitor

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chair Molisse called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM.

23 035- FY23 Opioid Settlement Special Purpose Stabilization Fund

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on. Ted Langill presented the request to accept the provisions of MGL c.40 § 5B and establish an Opioid Settlement Special Purpose Stabilization Fund as a special reserve to appropriate funds received from the statewide opioid settlements, to be used for prevention education, treatment, and support of recovery services to those impacted by opioid use disorder. Weymouth joined the lawsuit against the opioid manufacturers and distributors in 2019. The purpose of the measure is to create a special purpose stabilization fund to protect the funds; any spending from the stabilization must be approved by the Town Council.

Councilor Burga motioned to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action, and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

23 036- Free Cash to Fire Department Overtime

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on. Chief of Staff Langill presented the request to transfer the sum of \$15,000 from Sick Incentive Pay account, \$40,000 from Fire Out-of-Grade Pay account, \$35,000 from Fire Salaries Account, \$50,000 from Fire Details Account and \$680,000 from Free Cash for a total of \$820,000 to the Fire Department Overtime account. Weren't sure of impact with opening of Station 2 and to 21 minimum staffing. Deficit early on. Productive meetings with union on policies. Situation has improved. Rolling totals comparison has shown improvement to less than 15k per week. This should hopefully cover to the end of the year, and increase in amount for FY24. No new hires. Some retirements.

Councilor Burga asked where staffing levels stand. There are four paid from the Safer Grant, and a total of 99 members. Done before station 2 to allow for a buffer. PB- some a result of COVID. Nice to see it come down. TL new positions- increased the OT budget. Councilor Kiely added that she advocated opening station 2, and she asked what effect it's had on response time. Mr. Langill responded that since it opened 2 years ago, the station responded to 11 fires.

Councilor Burga motioned to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action, and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

23 042- Appointment to Cultural Arts Council- Melanie Gingrich

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on April 3, 2023. Ms. Gingrich of 24 Chestnut Creek was invited to the table to present her interest and qualifications for the 2-year appointment to the committee. She reported she moved to Weymouth 7 years ago and is active with the theater company and interested in arts & crafts.

Councilor Burga motioned to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action, and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

23 043- Appointment to Community Events Committee- April Lenahan

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on April 3, 2023. Ms. Lenahan 12 Shawmut Avenue was invited to the table to present her interest and qualifications for the 3-year appointment to the committee. She reported she's lived in Weymouth for 20 years and enjoyed attending the community events with her children. Now that they are older, she wants to give back.

Councilor Burga motioned to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action, and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

23 044- Appointment to Cultural Arts Council- Gina O'Leary

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on April 3, 2023. Ms. O'Leary of 200 Trotter Road was invited to the table to present her interest and qualifications for the 2-year appointment. She reported that she has an abiding love of the arts and children through school theater. She wants the opportunity to be part of bringing arts to the town.

Councilor Burga motioned to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action, and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. Unanimously voted.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:01 PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Councilor Burga to adjourn and was seconded by Councilor Shanahan. Unanimously voted.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary.

Approved by Michael Molisse as Budget/Management Committee Chairman

Voted unanimously on 5 June 2023