

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
October 3, 2022, Monday**

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

Absent: Maureen Kiely, Councilor
Brian Connolly, Town Auditor

Also Present: Richard McLeod, Town Solicitor
Heather Backman, Asst. Library Director
Robert Luongo, Planning Director

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chair Molisse called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

22 123- Reserve Fund Transfer – Legal

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on September 12, 2022. Solicitor McLeod presented the request; that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$50,000 from the FY23 Reserve Fund to the Town Solicitor-Labor Relations-Special Counsel line item for the purpose of paying costs associated with legal labor services.

Solicitor McLeod reported that this is in line with new procedures. In the past, each department tracked their own billing for legal fees. They will now be consolidated through the legal department, so that the accounting can be properly tracked. Councilor Burga asked why the change in procedure, and will there be an associated cost savings. The solicitor responded that he hopes it will in the future. The goal is to handle matters such as some of the pending arbitration, currently being outsourced to in-house counsel. Another goal is to make sure billing is reasonable within the contract.

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

Councilor Burga motioned to take measure 22 125 out of order. Councilor Shanahan seconded and it was unanimously voted.

22 125- CPA Funding Request – Stained Glass Windows at Fogg Library

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on September 19, 2022. Heather Backman, Asst. Director, presented the request; that the Town of Weymouth appropriate the sum of \$6,500 from the CPA Historic Resources Fund Balance for the conservation and preservation of two (2) stained glass windows at Fogg Library. Ms. Backman reported that two of the dozen windows features an historical printer’s mark, and the central pane in these two windows has been damaged. There were previous attempts to repair, but the broken sections actually need to be reconstructed to match the building’s other windows. Quotes were solicited from four vendors, and the award to one of the respondents, Coastal Art Glass in Norwell.

Councilor Burga asked what the timeline is for completion. Ms. Backman responded that it would be as soon as possible.

Councilor Burga motioned to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action. Vice Chair Heffernan seconded the motion and it was unanimously voted.

22 124- CPA Funding Request – Crypts at Village Cemetery

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on September 19, 2022. Bob Luongo, Planning Director, presented the request; that the Town of Weymouth appropriate the sum of \$19,000 from the CPA Historic Resources Fund Balance, for the conservation and preservation of two (2) crypts at Village Cemetery. One of the crypts, erected in 1857 collapsed 6 or 8 months ago due to age and weather. The Front Street side of the cemetery has been designated an historic cemetery. CPA funds have successfully been used in the past to repair headstones in the cemeteries, including the stones of Abigail Adams’ parents in the North Cemetery. The area around the damaged crypt is currently taped off.

Councilor Burga asked if collapse is common. Mr. Luongo responded that it does happen. Vice Chair Heffernan asked about cemetery ownership. Mr. Luongo responded that it is owned by Village Cemetery Association, Inc. and it is still an active cemetery, but they do not have a reserve to cover this. They will contribute to the cost.

Chair Molisse noticed there has been a lot of work done there in the past year. There’s also tape marking off another section. One of the active uses is on the Front Street side. He also noted that cemeteries don’t generally have a lot of money to expend on improvements.

Councilor Burga motioned to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action. Councilor Shanahan seconded the motion and it was unanimously voted.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:17 PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Councilor Burga to adjourn. Councilor Shanahan seconded the motion and it was unanimously voted.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Michael Molisse as Budget/Management Committee Chairman
Voted unanimously on 17 October 2023