

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
May 3, 2021, Monday**

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

Absent: Jane Hackett, Vice Chairman

Also Present: Ted Langill, Chief of Staff
Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor
Jody Lehrer, Community Development Coordinator
Jane Kudcey, Housing Coordinator
Robert Luong-Director of Planning

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chair Molisse called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. A roll call was taken, with two members absent.

21 053- Independent Audit Fee

The measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on April 5, 2021. Auditor Richard Swanson presented the request to transfer the sum of \$4,000 from the Reserve Fund to Town Council Audit Fees for the purpose of funding an additional \$4,000 expense from the Independent Auditors. This is for an additional Federal School program audit, and is covered in the terms of the outside audit with Melanson.

A motion was made by Councilor Burga to forward measure 21 053 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Heffernan.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga-Yes, Councilor Heffernan-Yes, Chair Molisse-Yes. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED. After the vote, Councilor Kiely arrived.

21 056- Council Authorization to Expend CDBG/HOME Funds FY21-22

The measure was referred to the committee on February 18, 2020. Planning Director Bob Luongo reported that Ms. Lehrer and Kudcey present the request; that the Town of Weymouth accepts the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 HUD grants in the amounts of \$729,350 for CDBG and \$168,105.60 in HOME Investment Partnership Grant Funds; both are allocations from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). 15% of the grant goes to federal services and 20% to administration (legal ads, benefits, salary, travel, and professional association memberships). The grant provides funding to three

senior programs: volunteer programs, transportation for seniors to appointments, and extended day shopping, and Father Bill's Mainspring for the salary of the triage coordinator who conducts all of the intake for Weymouth residents. Rehab administration – salary and consultant fees for onsite home inspections, Housing rehab – 0% interest deferred loans to low to moderate homeowners and renters residing in Weymouth, for home rehabilitation projects. Projects include the Weymouth Housing Authority to install mobile showers for residents and seniors in a number of units in Pope Towers, and to DPW to complete sidewalk improvements on Bayview Street. Some funds remain unallocated (allowed by HUD, so long as no more than 10% and will allow for contingencies).

Auditor Swanson reported that he reviewed the supporting information, and it is in order. Chair Molisse thanked them for the thorough presentation.

A motion was made by Councilor Kiely to forward the measure to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Heffernan. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- Yes, Councilor Heffernan-Yes, Councilor Kiely- Yes, Chair Molisse- Yes. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

21 058- Reserve Fund Transfer – 53rd Payroll

The measure was referred to the committee on April 20, 2021. James Malary presented the request; that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$562,801 from the FY21 Reserve Fund to an 02 fund account for the purpose of funding the 53rd payroll in FY21, covering Sunday, Jun 27th through Saturday, July 3rd. it's a leap year event that adds an extra week to the payroll. Due to the fiscal restraints during FY21, an administrative decision was made to utilize a one-time source of funding later in the year to cover this cost. Auditor Swanson reported that he examined the documentation and confirmed it is in order.

A motion was made by Councilor Kiely to forward measure 21 058 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Heffernan. Councilor Burga asked if this is typical? Mr. Malary responded that the change in the way it was handled this year was due to financial constraints brought on by the pandemic and handling will revert back to historical practice going forward.

A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- Yes, Councilor Heffernan-Yes, Councilor Kiely- Yes, Chair Molisse- Yes. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

21 057- Legal Dept. Line Item Transfer/Supplemental Appropriation Request

The measure was referred to the committee on April 20, 2021. Solicitor Callanan presented the request; to pay Miyares & Harrington to support the town's efforts in opposition to the compressor station. Work has scaled back from an average of \$30,000 per month to about \$10,000 per month once the host agreement was signed.

Auditor Swanson reviewed the invoices and reported that all are in proper order and represent work performed during this fiscal year.

Councilor Burga was asked whether the 10-Citizens Group, which was also represented by Miyares & Harrington were provided certain requested documents. Solicitor Callanan responded that this was addressed in court hearings several times related to the town's withdrawal. In checking with the Board of Bar Overseers in November, Solicitor Callanan learned that they cannot turn over documents from the official capacity suit to the 10-Citizens group. All of the public documents were filed on the web except those prohibited or protected by client privilege. Councilor Burga asked if the Solicitor is confident the firm has done all that was expected and required of them for both the town and citizen's group and should be paid? Solicitor Callanan responded that not only should they be paid, they should be lauded. They were able to delay the work on the compressor station for three years as a result of the objections.

A motion was made by Councilor Kiely to forward measure 21 057 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Heffernan. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- Yes, Councilor Heffernan-Yes, Councilor Kiely- Yes, Vice Chair Molisse- Yes. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:22 PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Councilor Kiely to adjourn and was seconded by Councilor Heffernan. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- Yes, Councilor Heffernan-Yes, Councilor Kiely- Yes, Chair Molisse- Yes. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Michael Molisse as Budget/Management Committee Chairman
Voted unanimously on 7 June 2021