

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
February 22, 2022, Monday

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

Absent: Maureen Kiely, Councilor

Also Present: Ted Langill, Chief of Staff
Keith Stark, Chief, Fire Department
Robert Luongo, Planning Director

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

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

22 004- Free Cash Transfer to Fire Department Overtime

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on January 18, 2022. Fire Chief Keith Stark and Chief of Staff Langill presented the request that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$400,000 from Free Cash to Fire Department Overtime for the purpose of funding costs associated with an increase in fire department overtime hours. The reopening of Station 2 and COVID 19 absences necessitated additional hours. The town applied for another SAFER grant to fund two additional firefighters, and they are negotiating how to deal with COVID moving forward. There will be remaining salary due to retirements, and SAFER grant money to utilize before the end of year. This amount is an estimate to the end of the year.

Chair Molisse asked if the SAFER only funds two positions. Mr. Langill responded no; the current covers four positions. They expect an additional two reimbursements this year, and one year remains on the grant. Whatever amount they request must be sustainable. The current manpower complement is 99.

Councilor Burga asked how the SAFER grant eligibility works and how many can be requested. Chief Stark responded that it is based on sustainability. It is open to any town or government. This town has new threats to justify their request, such as the compressor station and growth in North Weymouth. They currently have enough manpower to cover the minimum manpower on every crew, if they all show up. There is a cushion to cover illness, vacations, military deployments, etc.

Councilor Heffernan motioned to forward measure 22 004 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action, and was seconded by Councilor Burga. Unanimously voted.

22 005- Free Cash Transfer to the Stabilization Fund

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on January 18, 2022. Chief of Staff Ted Langill presented the request that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$2,748,906 from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund.

This amount equals the cumulative amount of three previous measures (20 119, 21 006 and 21 104) that transferred funds from the stabilization fund for which the administration promised to reimburse upon certification of Free Cash, which occurred on January 3, 2022.

This is a reimbursement for three measures passed last year, with stipulation the stabilization fund would be refunded.

Councilor Heffernan motioned to forward measure 22 005 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action, and was seconded by Councilor Burga. Unanimously voted.

22 013-Community Preservation Fund Transfer for Conceptual Design Services for Iron Hill Park

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 7, 2022. Planning Director Bob Luongo presented the request that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$40,000 from the Unreserved Fund Balance Account for conceptual design services for Iron Hill Park as approved by the Community Preservation Committee. When approved, it hadn't gotten proper approval from CPA- it needed to be better worded to avoid problems later. It is strictly a housekeeping matter.

Councilor Heffernan motioned to forward measure 22 013 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action, and was seconded by Councilor Burga. Unanimously voted.

22 014- Reserve Fund Transfer – Engineering Services

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 7, 2022. At the request of the administration, this measure was withdrawn, to be resubmitted at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:54 PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Councilor Heffernan to adjourn and was seconded by Councilor Burga. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Michael Molisse as Budget/Management Committee Chairman
Voted unanimously at the TC meeting of 7 March 2022