

# APPROVED

## TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

April 13, 2020, Monday

ZOOM-Meeting ID: 150 680 995

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

Also Present: Kathleen Deree, Town Clerk  
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor  
Eric Schneider, Principal Planner  
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor  
Karen Johnston, Director, Elder Services  
Jay Donovan, Engineering  
Jody Lehrer, Planning  
Jane Kudcy, Planning  
Elizabeth Foster Nolan, Census 2020

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chair Molisse called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. He read the following into the record:

*“Governor Charles Baker has declared a State of Emergency in Massachusetts to support the state's response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Per the directive of Mayor Hedlund and the Town of Weymouth's "Emergency Declaration and Town-Wide Guidance in Response to COVID-19 of March 13, 2020”, the Town Council will meet remotely for the health and safety of Councilors and the public during the Massachusetts State of Emergency.”*

### **20 018-Reserve Fund Transfer-Weymouth Complete Count 2020 Census**

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 18, 2020. Kathy Deree, Town Clerk, Karen Johnston, Director, Elder Services and Elizabeth Foster Nolan, Census 2020 committee presented the request that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$20,000 from the Reserve Fund to the Town Clerk, Unclassified Expenditures line item for the purpose of funding costs associated with Weymouth's Census Complete Count activities.

This funding will pay for educational and promotional materials to increase awareness about and motivate residents to respond to the 2020 Federal Census. Census data directly affects how more than \$675 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to

communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation, and more. This will help ensure Weymouth gets its fair share of federal and state funding.

Ms. Foster Nolan reported that the town of Weymouth has reached 55.4% response rate as of today (above the state rates). They requested these funds to assist with getting the word out. Signs are out at key islands, but because of the current emergency, they had to shift their approach with distribution. They are working with schools, elder services, and the town website, but there is more outreach to do. The Federal census has temporarily suspended field collection until June 1<sup>st</sup> (with PPE and proper CDC precautions) and requested additional time to deliver their report.

Auditor Swanson confirmed the balance in MUNIS is adequate for the request.

A motion was made by Councilor Hackett to forward measure 19 018 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Kiely. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Burga- Yes, Councilor Heffernan- yes, Councilor Kiely- Yes, Vice Chair Hackett- Yes, Chair Molisse- Yes. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

#### **20 019-Reserve Fund Transfer-Engineering Services-Stormwater Compliance**

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 18, 2020. Jay Donovan, DPW, Engineering requested that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$96,000 from the Reserve Fund to the DPW, Engineering, Other Professional Services line item for the purpose of funding the engineering costs associated with meeting requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Stormwater Program. This is to assist the DPW with compliance efforts required by EPA stormwater effort.

*Stormwater discharges in the Town of Weymouth are regulated by the EPA's NPDES Phase II Stormwater Program. Under this program, the Town was required to obtain NPDES permit coverage under the 2016 General Permit for its stormwater discharges. The 2016 General Permit became effective July 1, 2017.*

*To obtain coverage under this permit, the Town filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) with the EPA and Mass DEP in September 2018. The Town received authorizing to discharge stormwater from the EPA on April 5, 2019. The authorization to discharge will expire on June 30, 2022.*

*The EPA permit has a 5 year permit term, with permit years that coincide with the Fiscal Year. Permit Year 1 ended on June 30, 2019 and Permit Year 2 runs from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. The end of Permit Year 5 is June 30, 2023. Even though this is a 5-year permit, EPA will likely extend the permit term and there are requirements that extend ten years and more beyond the permit effective date.*

*To date, Tighe & Bond (T&B) has been providing Engineering Services to assist the DPW Engineering Division with completing the tasks required to remain in compliance under the permit. The following is a summary of the funding request:*

*\$5,000 – For technical assistance T&B provided to prepare for and attend a full day EPA Audit/Inspection that took place on February 26, 2020.*

*\$91,000 – For T&B to assist the Town with performing the tasks required to be completed during Permit Year 2.*

Auditor Swanson reported that he reviewed MUNIS, and under Other Professional Services, in DPW Engineering, confirmed there is a deficit so the funding is needed. Chair Molisse responded that the work is a requirement so it needs to be done.

A motion was made by Councilor Hackett to forward measure 20 019 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 Hackett- Yes, Chair Molisse- Yes-UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

#### **20 020-Reserve Fund Transfer-Charter Review Committee-Funding Request**

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on, February 18, 2019. These funds will be used to pay recording secretary fees and miscellaneous charges (paper, mailings, etc.). Deadlines were extended at the state level; they will have to see how it affects this committee.

A motion was made by Councilor Hackett to forward measure 20 020 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 Hackett- Yes, Chair Molisse- Yes-UNANIMOUSLY VOTED. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

#### **20 022-Reserve Fund Transfer-Engineering Services**

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 18, 2020. Eric Schneider gave the following Power Point presentation:



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# BUDGET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

April 13, 2020

Request for Engineering Services

(2022)



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## PROJECT BACKGROUND

- Issue identified by group of small business in the vicinity of Water Street concerned with exorbitant flood insurance costs who contacted Mayor Hedlund.
- Staff determined that none of the man made storm water controls constructed over the past 50+ years were reflected on the FEMA maps and resulted in an inaccurate assessment of flood risk.
- Staff presented detailed findings to USGS for inclusion in their scheduled 2020 map revisions.
- USGS agreed with town's findings but informed town that it is beyond their scope and budget to include the information in their updated maps. Instead asked the town to file a Letter of Map Revision with FEMA.



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## PUBLIC BENEFIT

- The effort is not speculative. The existence of the problem is acknowledged by the SGS and this effort is in response to their written recommendation.
- Potential benefit is not limited to only those property owners who helped to identify the issue. Additional residents downstream from the area may also find relief.
- The relief carries with the property and is a benefit to all future owners.
- This is an environmentally sensitive area, literally on top of the Herring Brook in some cases.
- In the long term, the town would like to see the area redeveloped with more environmentally appropriate uses. This project will open that opportunity for this generation and future generations.

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Auditor Swanson reported he reviewed MUNIS and the funds are needed for this project.

A motion was made by Councilor Kiely to forward measure 20 022 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 Hackett- Yes, Chair Molisse- Yes. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

### **20 036-Authorization to Expend CDBG and HOME Funds 2020-2021**

This measure was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on March 9, 2020.

Jody Lehrer presented the measure. It follows the same process as in past years. It divides up the funding request from CDBG of \$712,800 plus a prior year balance of just over \$87,000 into:

- General Administration (salaries, travel, etc.)           \$142566.60
- Public Services
  - transportation (15% of entire grant) \$126,924.95 –
    - this funds (2) salaries support positions at Elder Services
    - transport services for seniors. (The volunteer coordinator position supports transportation related to health, recreation and other activities.

- Extended hours are new- taking seniors from doorstep to grocery stores to access food, and this is a new activity- Meals on Wheels, and for persons under the age of 60 not typically eligible for Meals on Wheels.
- Father Bill's – Mainspring –funded to operate intake and service Weymouth residents who are homeless.
- Projects- \$512,064 for physical improvements to either infrastructure or facilities for housing rehabilitation. This includes:
  - Salaries of Housing Coordinator and Housing Rehab Specialist who run the housing program
  - DPCD program- loans given out to eligible homeowners for improvements to their homes (owned and occupied by low income).
- NeighborWorks- CHOTO \$75,000-funding for affordable housing developers who are required to maintain existing stock of housing.
- Request from DPW for \$69,413- Bayview Street sidewalks

Jane Kudcy presented the NeighborWorks housing solutions (NHS) portion. Weymouth is one of the communities in the HOME consortium towns. The estimated allocation of \$177,780 is to be used for the creation of new housing, with 10% allowed for administration fees.

Auditor Swanson reported he reviewed the schedules and has no issues.

A motion was made by Councilor Kiely to forward measure 20 036 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.

(During this presentation, at 6:20 PM, Councilor Hackett left the meeting.)

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 6:35 PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Councilor Kiely to adjourn and was seconded by Councilor Burga . 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 18 May 2020