Date: 10/19/2023

Time: 7PM

Location: Holbrook Town Hall

Members in Person: Scott, Brian, Barry

Members on Zoom: Mike, PJ, Anne

Motion to Approve the meeting minutes from 10/5

Brian/Scott 5-0-0

**Proposed Warrant Articles**

Article 1 - Pay unpaid bills from the prior year. Paid from the currently year's budget.

Article 2 - Question about when the warrant was posted. Article March 2022 Special Town Meeting. Revote as a housekeeping item. Mike asks how the funds will be raised. Town Accountant said that the borrowing is complete.

Articles 3,4, and 5 are related.

Need to change the language to fund the entire project. The grant will pay for a portion. Need to fund an additional $74k water & $74k sewer. The source is raising appropriate user fees. There are enough funds to cover the increase.

Article 6 - Article will be removed. The town is not going to pay the contractor for the additional 35k.

Article 7 - There will be a shortfall of $231,994. Required to fund in its entirety to get the recap approval. The selectboard will be moving forward with a proposal to terminate the contract with Capital. The funding source is waiting for determination from the selectboard. The options are increasing the user fees or taxation.

Article 8 - Increase is 1% to the base of straight time. Estimated cost is Approx $9k for part 1 for Article 9 Part 2 Approx $12k. This will be funded from the budget. Retro to October 1. The amounts cover the other agreements of MOU.

Article 10 - Selectboard requests the increase of the conservation agent to full time. This article will be funded from the HR payroll line. There is someone working for payroll but is billed to the town administrator budget.

PJ notes that he would like to hear from the Conservation Commission.

Article 11 - Remove the Police Chief from Civil Service. Adopted by 1934 reaffirmed in 1987. There needs to be this article and a referendum. This will allow for a larger pool of candidates without civil service. A panel that evaluates the candidates. Not unusual to have the chief removed, but the uniformed personnel were in civil service. This article was sponsored by Selectboard. This article will be for the Police Chief and the Deputy Chief.

Article 12 -Council on Aging, transfer from the capital stabilization fund to the Council on Aging Facilities Stabilization fund $48,000 from a grant, used to for the feasibility. The accountant says that this could be a complicated structure. Pass an article for the purpose and encumber. Recommend that Selectboard reopen the warrant.

Fire Chief - Article be put in for overtime, potential not until May, withdrawn.

*Salary Increase for the Town Clerk & Treasurer Collector*

Salary Increase for Treasurer - Collector from within the budget is the funding source. The treasurer notes that she is the lowest paid of the surrounding community. Average 103k, Norfolk County 104k.

These salaries are both voted on by the town, we have kept the roughly equivalent. Barry asks how many times we have given additional positions. The town accountant will research for the next meeting.

The Town Administrator notes that salary increases are best done at the annual town meeting.

**Next Meeting**

11/2 - Final Draft of the warrant

**Motion to Adjourn**

Brian/Scott 6-0-0

PROPOSED WARRANT ARTICLES

1. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of $8------ to pay the following unpaid bill from the previous fiscal year which was received after the close of the previous fiscal year and to meet said appropriation transfer the sum of $8---- from ------:

Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane, LLP $8--------

or take any other action relative thereto.

1. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for paying the Town’s share of additional costs of design and construction of the Tri-Town Regional Water Treatment Plant, as well as paying the Town’s share of designing and construction of subaqueous dual transmission mains, including, in each case, the payment of all other costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; or to take any other action related thereto.
2. To see if the Town will vote appropriate the sum of $74,863.50 from Water Retained Earnings and further the sum of $74,863.50 from Sewer Retained Earnings for the total sum of $149,727, or any other appropriate sum to supplement the sum of $112,000 previously approved in Article 12 of the June 5, 2023 Special Town Meeting for the purpose of funding the GIS Infrastructure Asset Management Program as required by DEP/EPA or take any other action related thereto.
3. To see if the Town will vote to supplement a previous appropriation approved in Article 7 of the June 5, 2023 Annual Town Meeting by approving an additional appropriation in the amount of $74,863.50 or any other appropriate sum to the Enterprise Sewer Account or take any other action related thereto.
4. To see if the Town will vote to supplement a previous appropriation approved in Article 8 of the June 5, 2023 Annual Town Meeting by approving an additional appropriation in the amount of $74,863.50 or any other appropriate sum to supplement the Enterprise Water Account or take any other action related thereto.
5. To see if the Town will vote to supplement a previous appropriation approved in Article 22 of the June 5, 2023 Special Town Meeting by approving an additional appropriation in the amount of $35,000 or any other appropriate sum to supplement the Capital Standpipe Replacement Project, or take any other action related thereto.
6. To see if the Town will vote to supplement a previous appropriation approved in Article 6 of the June 5, 2023 Annual Town Meeting by approving an additional appropriation to supplement the Solid Waste budget or take any other action related thereto.
7. To see if the Town will vote to approve an amendment to the collective bargaining agreement between the Town and the New England Police Benevolent Association Local 88A or take any other action related thereto.
8. To see if the Town will vote to approve an amendment to the collective bargaining agreement between the Town and the New England Police Benevolent Association Local 88B or take any other action related thereto.
9. To see if the Town will vote to supplement a previous appropriation approved in Schedule B of the Fiscal 2024 Wage and Salary Schedule of the June 5, 2023 Annual Town Meeting by approving an additional sum of $32,000 to the Conservation Officer Part Time or take any other action related thereto.
10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to file a home rule petition with the General Court pursuant to Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution to remove the position of Police Chief from Civil Service or take any action related thereto.
11. Citizens Petition Article submitted by the Council on Aging.

