

**TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE, MA.  
50 MAIN STREET  
JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE-SELECT BOARD  
REMOTE ZOOM MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021 AT 6:30 PM**

1. FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR BIKOFSKY, AS MODERATOR FOR THIS SESSION, CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:47 PM.
2. ATTENDEES: SELECT BOARD: CHUCK CARDILLO, ROXANNE MCCAFFREY AND PATRICK WHITE  
FINANCE COMMITTEE: JAY BIKOFSKY, JIM BALFANZ, PAM BOUDREAU, NEIL HOLDEN, DIANE REUSS, STEVE SHATZ AND WILLIAM VOGT  
TOWN GOVERNMENT ATTENDEES: MICHAEL CANALES AND VINCENT GARAFOLI  
OTHER ATTENDEES: STEVE BORNES (CTSB)
3. THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2021 WERE PRESENTED AND A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY JIM BALFANZ. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE MINUTES WERE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
4. FY 22 DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET PRESENTATIONS:  
HIGHWAY: CHAIR BIKOFSKY CALLED UPON MICHAEL CANALES TO REVIEW THE BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE COMMITTEE.  
\* MICHAEL ADVISED THE JOINT COMMITTEE THAT THE PROPOSED SALARY BUDGET WAS REDUCED BY \$75,709.00 WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT'S POSITION REMAINING VACANT AND THE DEPARTMENT'S EXPENSE BUDGET WAS PROJECTED TO BE LEVEL FUNDED AT \$117,710.00, THE SAME AS THE PRECEDING YEAR.  
\* MICHAEL FURTHER ADVISED THE COMMITTEE OF A NEED FOR A LARGE TRUCK REPLACEMENT IN THE FY 22 BUDGET YEAR WITH A FORD 650 OR EQUIVALENT AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$145,000 AS WELL AS, IN FY 23 BUDGET YEAR, REPLACEMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL LARGE TRUCK WITH A FORD 350 OR EQUIVALENT AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$80,000.00. MICHAEL THEN PRESENTED THE MERITS OF FUNDING THESE REQUESTS, IF APPROVED, WITH NOTES OVER A MULTI-YEAR PERIOD CONTRASTED TO USING AVAILABLE FREE CASH. THE JOINT COMMITTEE DISCUSSED THE MERITS OF THE TWO (2) PROPOSED FUNDING APPROACHES AND IT WAS GENERAL CONSENSUS THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO CONSIDER AN APPROACH TO FUNDING ONCE ALL CAPITAL REQUESTS WERE RECEIVED. STEVE SHATZ ALSO MENTIONED THE THOUGHT OF INCORPORATING THESE HIGHWAY CAPITAL REQUESTS INTO THE OPERATING EXPENSE BUDGET. MORE TO FOLLOW ON THIS.

**FIRE:** CHAIR BIKOFSKY THEN CALLED ON MICHAEL CANALES AND CHIEF VINCENT GARAFOLI TO REVIEW THE PROPOSED FY22 BUDGET REQUESTS FOR THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

- \* CHIEF GARAFOLI PRESENTED A NEW BUDGET CATEGORY FOR THE JOINT COMMITTEE, FIRE HOSE AND NOZZLE REPLACEMENT. HE MENTIONED THE NEED TO REPLACE A PORTION OF THIS EQUIPMENT ON AN ANNUALIZED BASIS AND PROPOSED A \$16,000.000 REQUEST FOR THIS PURPOSE IN THE FY 22 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET. THE COMMITTEE DISCUSSED THE NEED AND ASKED FOR MORE DETAIL ON THE REQUEST. FURTHER DETAIL WAS ALSO REQUESTED ON THE ADDITIONAL PROPOSED \$40,000.00 NEW CAPITAL REQUEST FOR THESE ITEMS AND HOW THIS REQUEST MIGHT BE EFFECTED BY THE ANNUALIZED HOSE AND NOZZLE REPLACEMENT PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED.
- \* CHIEF GARAFOLI WENT ON TO REVIEW A FY22 REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT REQUEST OF \$20,000.00. HE DETAILED THIS REQUEST FOR REPLACEMENT RADIOS, CARBON DIOXIDE METERS, GUAGES, ADAPTERS, FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND REPLACEMENT PARTS FOR THE JAWS OF LIFE. REPLACEMENT, HE MENTIONED, WAS NECESSARY DUE TO UTILIZATION.
- \* THE MATTER OF INCREASING PER CALL STIPENDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S VOLUNTEERS WAS THEN PRESENTED. THE COMMITTEE ASKED FOR MORE DETAIL ON THE NUMBERS AND AGES OF NEW AND EXISTING VOLUNTEERS, AS WELL AS STIPEND AND RECRUITMENT PRACTICES UTILIZED IN OTHER COMMUNITIES. DEVELOPMENT OF A SHORT AND LONGER TERM APPROACH WAS SUGGESTED BY THE COMMITTEE.
- \* THE CAPITAL REQUEST OF ENGINE #2 BODY WORK VS. A WELDED PATCH APPROACH WAS RAISED WITH A COST RANGING FROM \$40,000.00 TO \$60,000.00 TO REMOVE RUST. IT WAS FURTHER MENTIONED THAT THE LIFE OF THIS VEHICLE WOULD BE ANOTHER SEVERAL YEARS AND THE COMMITTEE SUGGESTED THAT THE EXTENT OF THIS REPAIR WORK SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION REPLACEMENT TIMING. MORE DETAIL WILL FOLLOW ON THIS REQUEST.
- \* CHIEF GARAFOLI DISCUSSED A CAPITAL REQUEST OF \$50,000.00 TO PAINT AND REPAIR THE WINDOWS AND SIDING OF THE INTERLAKEN STATION. ALSO MENTIONED WAS THE UTILIZATION OF THIS FACILITY TO HOUSE #1 ENGINE WITH ONE BAY CURRENTLY VACANT.

MICHAEL CANALES CONCLUDED THIS DISCUSSION SUGGESTING THAT THESE REQUESTS WOULD AGAIN BE REVIEWED FOR IMMEDIATE AND LONGER TERM CONSIDERATION AND A REVISED, MORE DETAILED APPROACH AGAIN BE PRESENTED TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE AT A FUTURE MEETING.



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OF MARCH 11, 2021 CON'T.**

**5. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**\* THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WAS REMINDED OF THE NEXT JOINT MEETING DATE, THURSDAY MARCH 25, 2021 AT 6:30 PM. THIS MEETING WOULD REVIEW A REDRAFTED OPERATING BUDGET, PROPOSED CAPITAL AND WARRANT ARTICLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE.**

**\* THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WAS ALSO REMINDED OF THE UPCOMING SCHEDULED EXIT INTERVIEW WITH THE TOWN'S AUDITORS ON MARCH 30, 2021 AT 6:30 PM.**

**\* ICE GLEN \$6,000.00 RESERVE FUND TRANSFER TREE SURVEY AND TREATMENT PLAN. AN ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT PLAN WAS PRESENTED FOR DISEASED ASH AND HEMLOCK TREES ON ICE GLEN. A SELECT BOARD MOTION WAS MADE BY CHUCK CARDILLO AND SECONDED BY PATRICK WHITE. A SELECT BOARD VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE TRANSFER UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. A FINANCE COMMITTEE MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM BALFANZ AND SECONDED BY STEVE SHATZ. A FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE TRANSFER ALSO WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**6. THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, CHAIR BIKOFSKY ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 8:05 PM.**