Rowe Finance Committee
February 27, 2019
6:00 P.M. at Rowe Town Hall – Meeting Room 1

Present: Vice-Chair Loretta Dionne, Paul McLatchy III, Laurie Pike
Absent: Chair Wayne Zavotka, Christopher "Selmi" Hyytinen
Other Attendees: None

Call to Order: Vice-Chair Dionne called the meeting to order at 6:08 P.M., with a quorum of the committee present.

Town Meeting Warrant: Members reviewed the articles for the upcoming special town meeting, and made the following recommendations:

Article 1: A motion was made by Mr. McLatchy and seconded by Vice-Chair Dionne to recommend the article. The vote was 3-0-0 in favor.

Article 2: A motion was made by Mr. McLatchy and seconded by Vice-Chair Dionne to recommend the article. The vote was 2-0-1 in favor, with Ms. Pike abstaining as she is a Park Commissioner.

Article 3: A motion was made by Mr. McLatchy and seconded by Ms. Pike to recommend the article. The vote was 3-0-0 in favor.

Article 4: A motion was made by Mr. McLatchy and seconded by Vice-Chair Dionne to recommend the article. The vote was 3-0-0 in favor.

Article 5: A motion was made by Mr. McLatchy and seconded by Vice-Chair Dionne to recommend the article. The vote was 3-0-0 in favor.

Article 6: A motion was made by Ms. Pike and seconded by Vice-Chair Dionne to recommend the article. The vote was 2-0-1 in favor, with Mr. McLatchy abstaining as he is a member of the Bylaw Review Committee.

Article 7: A motion was made by Mr. McLatchy and seconded by Vice-Chair Dionne to recommend the article. The vote was 2-0-1 in favor, with Ms. Pike abstaining as she is one of the affected employees.

Article 8: A motion was made by Mr. McLatchy and seconded by Vice-Chair Dionne to recommend the article. The vote was 3-0-0 in favor.

Article 9: A motion was made by Vice-Chair Dionne and seconded by Ms. Pike to recommend the article. The vote was 2-0-1 in favor, with Mr. McLatchy abstaining as he is the administrative assistant.

Article 10: A motion was made by Mr. McLatchy and seconded by Vice-Chair Dionne to recommend the article, but to recommend that the moneys be taken from free cash rather than stabilization. The vote was 3-0-0 in favor.

Article 11: A motion was made by Mr. McLatchy and seconded by Ms. Pike to recommend the article. The vote was 3-0-0 in favor.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Mr. McLatchy and seconded by Vice-Chair Dionne to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 P.M. The vote was 3-0-0 in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul McLatchy III, Secretary

Approved: 4/3/19

Loretta Dionne, Vice-Chairman

Paul McLatchy III, Secretary

Laurie Pike, Member

Attachments:

- Town Meeting Warrant

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Town of Rowe

ROWE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2019 at 7:00 P.M.

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to TRANSFER from FY19 General Administrations Account the sum of $1,009.37 for a bill of prior year consisting of supplies purchased in FY18, or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: These funds are needed to pay for bills received after the deadline to submit FY18 invoices and due to a new billing system.

NOTE: 9/10 vote is required to pay a prior year bill.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee (3-0-0)

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to TRANSFER from the **Park Wages Account** to the **Park Operations Accounts** the sum of $2,000.00, or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: Due to the resignation of a fitness instructor the park commission have now elected to hire a replacement instructor as a subcontractor not as a town employee, so we are paying from Park Operations rather than from Park Wages account.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee (2-0-1)

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to APPROPRIATE from **Free Cash** the sum of $2,218.00 for the purpose of paying out accrued sick time to the retiring Tax Collector/Assessors' Clerk, or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: The current Tax Collector/Assessors' Clerk will be retiring and is entitled to a payout of her accrued sick time.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee (3-0-0)

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to APPROPRIATE from **Free Cash** the sum of $960.00 for the purpose of training a new tax collector, or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: The current tax collector will be retiring as of June 30, and a new tax collector will need to be trained and in place prior to this.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee (3-0-0)

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to APPROPRIATE from **Free Cash** the sum of $58,000.00 for Gracy House Repairs and Mold Mitigation, or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: The town has received multiple reports detailing mold issues at the Gracy House. Funding will be needed to remove the mold and make certain upgrades to prevent it from growing back.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee (3-0-0)

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to AMEND the Town of Rowe General Bylaws, Article II §5, by replacing the following wording:

"The annual Town Report shall be *delivered* to the voters not less than seven (7) days before the date of the annual meeting."

with

"The annual Town Report shall be *made available* to the voters not less than seven (7) days before the date of the annual meeting."

or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: This will eliminate the need to have the annual report delivered to all voters whether they want it or not. Last year the town spent approximately $1,000 to have the report mailed to all voters.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee (2-0-1)

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to APPROPRIATE from **Free Cash** the sum of $2,000.00 for the purpose of reimbursing incorrectly withdrawn Social Security deductions, or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: Social Security has been improperly deducted from school personnel who are, or have been, enrolled in a qualifying public retirement system. These funds will be used to reimburse those individuals for the amounts incorrectly removed from their earnings that cannot otherwise be refunded by the Federal Government.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee (2-0-1)

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to APPROPRIATE from **Free Cash** the sum of $100,000.00 to the Road and Bridge Engineering Special Project Account for the final design costs of engineering Yankee Road and Zoar Road Bridge over Shippee Brook, or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: Yankee Road is in poor condition and will need to be replaced. Funds will be used to pay for the final design costs from Lamson Engineering Corporation before work can be done. The bridge over Shippee Brook has been reduced to a one-lane bridge as one side has become structurally unsound.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee (3-0-0)

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to APPROPRIATE from **Free Cash** the sum of $6,500.00 to the **Administrative Assistant Compensation Account** for the purpose of funding additional hours for the remainder of FY19, or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: These funds will be used to provide for 40 hours each week for the Administrative Assistant from April to the end of the Fiscal Year.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee (2-0-1)

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to APPROPRIATE from **Capital Stabilization** the sum of $3,950.00 for a Direct Strike Grounding and Bonding Lighting Protection System for the Rowe Elementary School's water well pump, or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: Repair costs to date for lightning strikes to the Rowe Elementary School's water well pump have cost $15,000.00.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen
The Finance Committee recommends Article 10, but recommends the funds be appropriated from Free Cash instead.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40 Section 22F:

" Any municipal board or officer empowered to issue a license, permit, certificate, or to render a service or perform work for a person or class of persons, may, from time to time, fix reasonable fees for all such licenses, permits, or certificates issued pursuant to statutes or regulations wherein the entire proceeds of the fee remain with such issuing city or town, and may fix reasonable charges to be paid for any services rendered or work performed by the city or town or any department thereof, for any person or class of persons; provided, however, that in the case of a board or officer appointed by an elected board, the fixing of such fee shall be subject to the review and approval of such elected board.

A fee or charge imposed pursuant to this section shall supersede fees or charges already in effect, or any limitations on amounts placed thereon for the same service, work, license, permit or certificate; provided, however, that this section shall not supersede the provisions of sections 31 to 77, inclusive, of chapter 6A, chapter 80, chapter 83, chapter 138, sections 121 to 131N, inclusive, of chapter 140 or section 10A of chapter 148. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any certificate, service or work required by chapters fifty to fifty-six, inclusive, or by chapter sixty-six. The fee or charge being collected immediately prior to acceptance of this section for any license, permit, certificate service or work will be utilized until a new fee or charge is fixed under this section."

or take any action in relation thereto.

Explanation: We have been advised by Town Counsel to adopt this local option statute to issue permits with fees can be issued.

Recommended by Board of Selectmen
Recommended by Finance Committee (3-0-0)

ARTICLE 12: To transact any other business of a lawful and pertinent nature that may come before the meeting.

ROWE – BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Jennifer Morse, Chair
Dennis May, Vice-Chair
Chuck Sokol, Member