

Holland Finance Board

27 Sturbridge Rd, Holland MA 01521

Holland Town Hall, Community Room

MEETING MINUTES FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021

Virtual and Physical Meeting of the Board and Guests

- **Meeting Attendance:**

In person: Sharon Ashleigh, Ernie Fancy, Andy Harhay, Town Administrator Stacy Stout

Remote: Selectman Clelland Johnson, Kelli Robbins.

- **Open Meeting:**

Chair opened meeting 6:30 pm.

- **Minutes for review:**

March 7, 10, 17, and 31st. Ms. Robbins working on March 10 and Mr. Harhay on March 31. March 17 not assigned. March 10 minutes not available.

- **Follow up from previous meeting:**

Mr. Harhay- The Fire Chief provided actual expense line summary from previous years and we have FY21 expenses to date. Funding to \$56,500 felt to be appropriate for the line.

- **Review Correspondence received and not covered by above:**

Discussion of deficit in State Grant for Police Vests -Determined there was a mix-up when application was sent between State and Federal Grants. Federal grant received, but too late for to process State; vests had already been purchased. It is a real deficit.

- **Expenditure Report Review**

Question was raised by Mr. Harhay regarding whether wages for the Building Inspector Clerk can come from their revolving fund? Written conditions in Town warrants for appropriate use of the fund indicate that the Clerk wages can be paid from the revolving fund. Mr. Harhay will verify.

Pursuant to Jack Keogh's retirement, postings for a new Building Inspector are out. No applications received as of this meeting.

- **Review Budget and Free Cash Options**

Review performed of how money is currently allocated. Mr. Fancy requested that final discussion be postponed until articles are received. Mr. Johnson suggested money be available for a Planning Board agent in case needed on a temporary basis. Who will be elected to the Planning Board is unknown at this time and it may be a totally new board with no experience.

The BOS does not plan to go forward with a Grant Writer at \$ 65.00/hr. Ms. Robbins is still waiting to receive a copy of the Grant Writer contact. The contract for the Grant Writer has expired. Interviews are now being conducted to determine if there are additional individuals that may be qualified. The total dollar amount for the work is proposed to be \$10,000 more than for FY21. Ms. Stout is drafting new contract terms.

The Sichol property purchase has not closed. The closing for processing the grants was extended until June 30, 2021. Getting all the paper work signed and everybody is on board to proceed. The full amount of the purchase price has been borrowed and will be reduced by the Grant moneys when received. The Town will have to cover the interest charges on the current total amount.

- **Roundtable**

Mr. Fancy suggested that the Finance Public hearing meeting date also be included in post card mailed about town meeting dates. Ms. Robbins suggested it be added to the Outlook calendar as a reminder.

Mr. Harhay- Lindstrom money (\$9,900) suggested it come from the Reserve Fund by years end including \$ 5,425 deficit for the Police Vests. Mr. Harhay thought that street lighting money should be handled differently than the preceding two deficits. Mr. Fancy stated not to use the reserve fund but to wait until fiscal year end 2021 to see other moneys were available.

Much discussion on how to present the cost of the Assistant to the Town Administrator at the ATM. Ms. Robbins suggested that cost be put in the operating budget and creating a warrant article for the position. When the operating budget is review at the ATM a hold is put on the Assistant's line item. When the article is approved, go back and remove the hold.

The Finance Board public hearing will be May 11,2021 at 6:30PM.

Set Agenda for Next Meeting

- Next meeting set for 6:30 pm on April 14, 2021.
- Review Warrant Articles
- Meeting with Selectmen.

Motion to adjourn by Ms. Ashleigh, Ms. Robbins seconded.

All in Favor by roll call vote. Meeting concluded 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Ernie Fancy