



2021 JUL 21 AM 10:09

Town of Hanson

Finance Committee

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Meeting Opened: 1900 (MD/MW: 5-0)
Adjourned: 1200 (MD/MW: 5-0)

Minutes of: 16 March 2021

	Michael Dugan	Kenneth McCormick	Patrick Powers <i>Vice Chair</i>	Michelle Woerdeman <i>Clerk</i>	Amy Wright	Kevin Sullivan <i>Chairman</i>
Present	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Expires	6/30/2023	6/30/2021	06/30/2023	6/30/2022	6/30/2021	6/30/2022
Time						

Motion to open

Old Business

NTR

New Business

Account Balances

Free Cash: \$ 1,296,088
Stabilization Fund: \$ 1,306,343
WHRSD Capital Stabilization: \$ 160,992
Water Surplus: \$ 820,493
Recreation Retained Earnings: \$ 4,205
Solid Waste Retained Earnings: \$ 15,585
Reserve Fund: \$90,000

1. Health agent budget discussed (Gilbert Amado)
 - a. Meeting and mileage decreased as less travel needed with COVID
 - b. Cranberry cove pays for their own water testing, doesn't impact his budget
 - c. Title V and food inspector (independent contractors), no expected changes
 - d. V and A up slightly as it relates to contract tracing costs (Maven tracing)
 - i. No recouped costs through COVID relief package at this point
 - ii. May need to hire a public health nurse at some point (state requirement)
 - e. Animal inspector (like a state inspector) is different than the animal control officer
2. Hanson transfer station budget discussed (Gilbert Amado)
 - a. Hanson part of multi-town hazardous waste day. This, as well as grants, help lower the cost for this budget item.
 - b. Should be receiving another grant to purchase newer equipment
 - c. Proposal to purchase new compactors vs. renting the equipment
 - i. Rental equipment not as efficient (uses more electricity) and about 30 years old
 - ii. Funds were appropriated last budget cycle, but the vendor was not a state approved vendor which caused delays
 - d. Six month extension on existing waste removal contract
 - e. To the extent we can take items out of waste removal (i.e. cardboard, mattress recycling, etc.), this keeps the costs down
 - f. Discussion around potentially increasing orange waste bag cost to offset some increases in expenses
 - i. Only a slight increase in per bag Town cost of \$.02.
3. Water department budget discussed (Mr. Davis, Superintendent)
 - a. At a high level, budget is level funded and consistent year over year

- i. New area five/ well site is \$13 million but being delayed until FY 2023
 - 1. No risk to delaying this
 - ii. Water mains taken off the table in FY 2022 (\$1 million)
 - b. Clerical support staff – part time, let go due to COVID which resulted in decrease
 - i. Not expecting to rehire in near future
 - c. Water superintendent increase above the 3%, which is more than other town positions. Upon being hired, he had 3% increases for a 3 year period included in his contract. He never took the 3% in the first year. As a part of his renegotiations, he negotiated to have this at the back end of contract. There are \$10K stipends for him to maintain his licenses as well.
 - d. Water board did a rate increase to fund area five and they approved quarterly billing
 - i. Quarterly billing has been successful and allows for Town to pay its bills without dipping into its own cash
 - e. The narrative should be \$20K for other operating expenses. This amount is more of a comfort than necessity.
 - f. Admin is getting close to retirement age
4. Upcoming items/ general discussion
- a. Likely walk through Town Clerk, recreation, and highway budgets
 - b. Recreation and solid waste budgets may need to reduce hours to make up for overall town deficit
 - i. Need to consider raising price on bags
 - c. \$1.9 million is the overall town deficit as of the end of January
 - d. Teacher's union currently renegotiating their contracts, which may ultimately impact the budget

Consider any Line Item Transfers

N/A

Consider any Reserve Fund Transfers

N/A

Miscellaneous

N/A

Next Meeting Date

TBD

Meeting minutes:

N/A