



Town of Wales

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday 5/28/20 @ 6:00 PM

Members attending: Keith Davis(KD), Roy Lainson(RL), Jillian Mustion(JM)
Shanon Grasso(SG)
Joint meeting with BOS

Called to order at 6:03PM

Old Business with BOS

- Discussion was held on upcoming meetings. June 2nd will be the public finance committee meeting for the budget, this will be a call-in meeting. June 10th will be the annual town meeting. It will be held at Tantasqua this year, masks and social distancing will be in effect, transportation will be provided upon request.
- Discussion was held on how to decrease the town of Wales FY21 budget by \$25,162 due to a decrease in local aid from the state. This reduction is due to COVID-19 revenue decreases and will be proposed as an amendment to the printed town budget on the floor of the upcoming town meeting.
- Four plans were proposed:
 1. Cut retiree health insurance from an 80/20 plan to a 70/30 plan starting 1July to not spend \$13,000 and cut \$6000 each from the elementary school & municipal budgets
 2. Delay the purchase of the new police cruiser a year to not spend \$19,300 and cut retiree health insurance from an 80/20 plan to a 70/30 plan starting 1July to not spend \$13,000.
 3. Cut \$15,000 from the elementary school budget and \$10,000 from the municipal budget.
 4. Cut retiree health insurance from an 80/20 plan to a 75/35 plan starting 1September to not spend \$6,000, cut \$6,000 from the elementary school budget, cut \$6,000 from the tax title line item, and cut \$6,000 from the reserve fund line item.
- A combination of these plans was accepted and approved by BOS with the final decision cutting retiree health insurance from an 80/20 plan to a 70/30 starting 1September to not spend \$10,688, cutting the elementary school budget by \$7,237, cutting the tax title

line item by \$3,619, and cutting the reserve fund line item by \$3,619. The Selectman Valanzola made a motion to accept this change, Selectman Grasso seconded it, and the motion passed unanimously. Then Roy made a motion for the finance committee to accept these changes, it was seconded by Jillian, and passed unanimously.

- Clarification was provided on the mowing duties in the town of Wales. \$6,500 had been moved from the cemetery caretaker line item to the general government – property management line item to purchase lawn care equipment. It was found the town already owned this equipment. There was also discussion on the care and respect required for mowing a cemetery so the current contractor agreed to reduce the current contract to keep the job from going to the highway department. The \$6,500 now needs to be transferred back to the cemetery caretaker line item. BOS has already voted on this change. All other town properties will be mown by the highway department. This department may take over the cemeteries if they can prove their skill.
- The finance committee and BOS broke into separate meetings.

New Business

New Reserve requests – One

- Discussion and a vote was held on the reserve request from the police department for additional monies to cover salary. Chief had received incorrect operating numbers from the town accountant so was operating on a budget that was higher than what he actually had. Once the numbers were correctly reconciled he was left with a deficit. The motion to move \$6,000 from the reserve fund to the police department wages was made by Jillian, seconded by Shannon, and passed unanimously.
- A vote was held to move \$6,500 from general government- property maintenance to cemetery caretaker and to move \$43,000 from Wales Elementary to 32B. Roy made the motion, Jillian seconded it, and it passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned: 8:12pm

Reserve balance before meeting: \$13,961

Reserve balance after meeting: \$7,961