

Town Of Harwich
Finance Committee Meeting with Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
Thursday March 17, 2022, 6:00 P.M.

Members Present: Jon Chorey, Mark Ameres, Dan Tworek, Angelo S. LaMantia, Mark Kelleher, and Karen Doucette

I: Jon Chorey, as Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with a quorum present,

II: Discussion on Safer Grant for Fire Dept.

- Comments by Mark Kelleher on ambulance staffing at other locations in the state.
- First year cost \$52,000, 4th year cost approximately \$600,000
- Concerns about how to fund in 4th year, the chief prefers funding prior to 4th year.
- No vote taken, wait until March 21st meeting with full budget discussion.

III: Monomoy Regional School Budget:

- Review of proposed budget by Superintendent Scott Carpenter
- Selectmen can't support proposed \$680,000 increase in budget
- Superintendent to look at excess and deficiencies portion of budget for decreases in proposed budget.
- Needs to report to Chatham before returning to Harwich Board of Selectmen.

IV: Channel 18:

- No change in budget, self-funding through PEG account

V: Council of Aging:

- Request for program specialist to assist in programming and management of volunteers.
- Grant writing also to be done by program specialist.
- Increase nutrition program from 40 to 70 meals per day to reduce waiting list.

VI: Harbormaster Dept:

- Request by Harbormaster, John Rendon for assistant seasonal harbormaster, \$11,700.

VII: Recreation Dept:

- Decrease in budget of 1.4%.
- CPC article for \$245,000 for pickleball/basketball courts
- Town band request for \$2500.

VIII: Water/Wastewater

- No requests: flow started to Chatham

IX: Youth Counselor:

- Sheila House requests an increase in supplies from \$135 to \$900.

X: Discussion of free cash policy with Carol Coppola

- Policy of BOS since 2006 to maintain 7-8% of general fund expenditures
- The Board of Selectman made a motion to go to a 10% free cash policy as a percent of local receipts. Vote 5-0 to approve

XI: Discussion on part time cemetery assistant:

- Town administrator said the town plans to support a single employee.

XII: Miscellaneous:

- Charter required a public meeting with the Finance Committee which will be March 24.
- Chairman MacAskill to move three police cruiser to capital budget
- Motion to support Tech school budget passed 5-0
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X: With no other pending matters on the agenda, and with no further discussion from the members present, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kelleher
Acting Secretary