

**Town of West Boylston
Finance/CIB Committee
Meeting of April 27, 2022**

A meeting of Fincom and CIB was convened at 6:40 pm in the Select Board meeting room at town hall following the joint meeting with the Select Board to vote on the Town Meeting warrant articles. Attending were Fincom and CIB members Chris Berglund, Ray Bricault, Mary Foley, and Pete Murphy. Paul Bohanson, Austin Cyganiewicz, Bill Fay, Jim Marinelli, and Paul Redmond were absent.

The minutes of meeting for April 19, 2022 were approved 4-0 as moved by Ray Bricault and seconded by Mary Foley.

Article 8 of the Town Meeting warrant, Sewer Enterprise budget, was discussed. No sewer user rate increase is included in the budget again this year. The expected reduction in retained earnings continues to be slower than the forecast, and an increase in sewer fees is not yet needed.

Now that the Town Meeting Warrant has been voted by the Select Board, Fincom and CIB need to meet to vote on the individual warrant articles. A Zoom meeting will be scheduled for May 2 for the voting.

The report to Town Meeting by Fincom will include an explanation of ARPA and how these funds are being used. Town officials are satisfied that our use of these funds does comply with the eligible uses under the law.

Article 15 of the Town Meeting Warrant, establishing a Juneteenth holiday for town employees was discussed. Given the financial impact of an additional holiday, it was agreed that Fincom should take a position on the article. Voting will be at the May 2 meeting.

The Library heating system costs were discussed. The quote to Eversource from New England Mechanical for a complete replacement of the heating and cooling system with a heat pump, an air handling heat exchanger, and up grades as required to some of the room heating registers was \$585,000. Replacement hot water boilers were quoted at \$109,000, plus a new hot water heat pump. All together with the added estimated cost of a replacement chiller compressor, upgrading the current heating and cooling systems will cost about \$200,000. The heat pump system is therefore about a \$400,000 premium over a replacement system. Eversource is expected to offer a subsidy for the heat pump system. That number is thought to be \$125,000, making the heat pump premium about \$250,000. After discussion, it was agreed that we should wait for Eversource to provide their response to the quote and clarify their subsidy. Chris Berglund will discuss it with the Town Manager to determine who will do the followup with Eversource.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm as moved by Mary Foley and seconded by Pete Murphy. All voted in favor.

Pete Murphy
Secretary, Fincom and CIB