

**Town of West Boylston
Finance/CIB Committee
Meeting of January 23, 2023**

A meeting of Fincom and CIB was convened at 6:04 pm by Zoom. Chris Berglund read the required State Zoom meeting enabling statement. Attending Fincom and CIB members were Chris Berglund, Paul Bohanson, Ray Bricault, Bill Fay, Mary Foley, and Pete Murphy.

Ray Bricault moved, seconded by Bill Fay, to approve the minutes of December 19 for Fincom and CIB. All voted in favor in a roll call vote, 5-0 for Fincom and 5-0 for CIB. Mary Foley joined the meeting after this vote.

FY 2023 spending has been within budgets. Snow and ice spending has been low so far. Chris Berglund will meet with the Town Accountant on the debt schedule and rolloff in FY2024.

A schedule for department budget meetings with Fincom and CIB is needed. Chris Berglund will work with the Town Administrator to develop the schedule, which will be reviewed at the next Fincom/CIB meeting on February 13.

- Department operating budgets for FY2024 are expected to be unchanged beyond scheduled salary increases, with the exception of Fire. Fire requires additional personnel for the ambulance service. Fire is currently operating with mandatory overtime to cover shifts. New hires are urgently needed.
- Department capital budgets for FY2024 are being reviewed with the Town Administrator.
 - The DPW is asking for a trackless boom arm for \$36,000 (this has been requested before) and a replacement F350 dump truck for \$110,000. There is also a request for a building engineering review, cost unknown, and a development plan for the new cemetery, which should be covered by a State grant for \$110,000. DPW will work on four projects in FY2024; DPW building improvement, culvert/bridge replacement, the new cemetery development, and repair of the Pride Park playground. Bill Fay and Paul Bohanson will work with the DPW director on budgets prior to the meeting with Fincom/CIB. They will confirm that the previously requested Mower attachment for the large Cat tractor is no longer on the capital list.
 - The Schools are developing a long term capital plan to renovate and/or replace school buildings. Their immediate need is a replacement heating boiler at the Major Edwards school for \$300,000. Chris Berglund and Ray Bricault will work with the School's financial director on capital needs prior to the meeting with Fincom/CIB.
 - The Library heating system funding is still unresolved. It is unclear if Eversource will participate with funding. Town hall also has some new capital items to review.

Pete Murphy and Chris Berglund will work with the Library director and Town Administrator on budgets prior to the meeting with Fincom/CIB.

- The Fire department is developing an extensive list of long term capital needs, including building issues. Mary Foley and Paul Bohanson will work with the Chief on budgets prior to the meeting with Fincom/CIB. Police are not expected to have any operating or capital changes.
- Funding available for capital projects includes \$1.2 million in the CIF and \$500,000 each in Free Cash and remaining ARPA funds. The Town Administrator will be seeking grant funding where it is available.
- Ray Bricault will investigate FISP committee expectations regarding town building renovation or replacement. The FISP is not currently expecting any major department building requests.

Next meeting date was set for February 13 at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm as moved by Ray Bricault and seconded by Mary Foley.

Pete Murphy
Secretary, Fincom and CIB