

**Town of West Boylston
Finance/CIB Committee
Meeting of April 19, 2022**

A meeting of Fincom and CIB was convened at 6:32 pm by Zoom. Chair Chris Berglund read the Zoom meeting authorization statement. Attending were Fincom and CIB members Chris Berglund, Ray Bricault, Paul Bohanson, Bill Fay, Mary Foley, and Pete Murphy. Austin Cyganiewicz, Jim Marinelli, and Paul Redmond were absent.

The amended minutes of meeting for April 4, 2022 were approved 6-0 as moved by Ray Bricault, seconded by Bill Fay. The minutes of meeting for April 11 were amended by correcting the price of the DPW mower, and approved 6-0, as moved by Paul Bohanson, seconded by Chris Berglund.

The ARPA expenditures were discussed. Several are capital expenses; the Major Edwards boilers, the DPW copier, and the Fire engine hydraulics. The question of possible limits on how the ARPA funds are spent was unresolved. Chris Berglund will discuss the question of ARPA restrictions with the Town Administrator and the Town Accountant to be sure of conformance.

In the previous meeting of Fincom/CIB on April 11, the votes on capital requests were taken only by CIB. After discussion, it was decided that Fincom should also vote on the capital items. Chris Berglund moved and Ray Bricault seconded a motion for Fincom to:

- Endorse the purchase of a new HD mower for \$40,600 from the Capital Investment Fund. The motion was approved by Fincom 6-0.
- Pass over the request for a new large dump truck until more information is received. The motion was approved by Fincom 6-0.
- Not endorse either a replacement pickup truck or a mini-excavator for FY23. The motion was approved by Fincom 6-0.
- Endorse a replacement tractor for the cemetery for \$20,000 from the Capital Investment Fund. The motion was approved by Fincom 6-0.

Some of the current capital requests could be funded through ARPA. Ray Bricault moved and Bill Fay seconded a motion to allow the Town Administrator to fund endorsed capital items from available ARPA funds without additional approval by Fincom or CIB. The motion was approved by a vote of Fincom 6-0 and CIB 6-0.

The remaining open capital requests were discussed:

- The Major Edwards boiler replacement may be eligible for a Green Communities grant. The grant application is in process. A heat pump option is also being explored. The funding decision can wait until the Fall Town Meeting. Bill Fay moved and Ray Bricault seconded a motion to pass over this capital request. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0

- A school van has been in an accident and must be replaced. A Green Vehicle grant application is being made by the Town Administrator. No action is required now.
- The DPW dump truck capital request is urgent. The DPW normally has 3 available trucks and is now only operating with 2. This is not a sustainable situation. Pete Murphy moved and Ray Bricault seconded a motion to endorse the DPW F600 dump truck capital request for \$130,000. The motion was approved by a vote of Fincom 6-0 and CIB 6-0.

Chris Berglund will make a request to the Town Accountant for the current free cash total and carryover from last fiscal year.

Town meeting is May 16. Fincom and CIB will make a report to Town Meeting on ARPA funding and expenditures, potential school expenses, and anticipated DPW capital needs.

Fincom and CIB actions on all warrant articles are due on Wednesday, April 20. The Select Board will vote on the warrant on Wednesday, April 27.

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm as moved by Chris Berglund and seconded by Bill Fay. All voted in favor 6-0.

Pete Murphy
Secretary, Fincom and CIB