

**Town of West Boylston
Finance/CIB Committee
Meeting of October 3, 2022**

A meeting of Fincom and CIB was convened at 6 pm by Zoom. Attending Fincom and CIB members were Chris Berglund, Paul Bohannon, Ray Bricault, Mary Foley, and Pete Murphy. Bill Fay joined the meeting late; Jim Marinelli and Paul Redmond were absent. Chris Berglund read the State enabling statement for a municipal Zoom meeting. The Town Administrator, Jennifer Warren-Dyment, also was in attendance.

Ray Bricault moved, seconded by Mary Foley, to approve the minutes of September 26 for Fincom and CIB. All voted in favor 5-0 in a roll call vote.

Free cash for the October town meeting been certified at \$1,548,982, inclusive of all free cash carryover.

The DPW Director, Kevin Duffy, attended the meeting to answer questions about the DPW capital requests:

1) Replace Truck #2 - Cost estimate is \$250,000. The DPW has a 3 truck fleet, all new in 2005/6. This truck replacement now has an extended lead-time of 18 to 24 months, probably meaning that it will not be available for the next two winter plowing seasons. The truck #2 it is expected to replace has already been refurbished from a fire and is not expected to be reliable. Truck maintenance costs and photos were provided and discussed. After discussion, Ray Bricault moved and Mary Foley seconded a motion to endorse this request for CIB and Fincom. The motion was approved by Fincom and CIB in a roll call vote, 5-0.

2). Flail Mower attachment for Trackless \$34,500 - DPW provided photos and more information about the problems with this mower attachment. After discussion, CIB and Fincom elected not to reconsider this capital request for the October town meeting.

The Fire Chief, Mark Sadowski, is on emergency management assignment in Florida for hurricane Ian recovery and could not participate in the meeting. The open Fire Department Capital request:

1) Car #2, \$74,586 - Since the last meeting, this vehicle had an engine failure and is permanently out of service. Since the purchase of the new forestry truck, this vehicle represents an increase in the total number of Fire vehicles. CIB and Fincom discussed whether this is justified. The report from Fire is that this vehicle is used almost daily and it would be a hardship not to have it to move Fire equipment and to bring personnel to emergency calls. Whether an F250 is the right vehicle was questioned, given how it is used. After discussion, Fincom and CIB decided to request a report on all Fire equipment needs, including a definition of how equipment is used. Pete Murphy moved and Paul Johnson seconded a motion to endorse this request for CIB and Fincom, subject to review of the

vehicle type by the Fire Chief and the Town Administrator when the Chief returns. The motion was approved by Fincom and CIB in a roll call vote, 5-0.

Mary Foley left the meeting. A quorum was maintained.

The town meeting warrant was reviewed:

Article 1 - Report to Town Meeting - Fincom and CIB will provide no report at the October Town Meeting. Pete Murphy moved and Ray Bricault seconded a motion for Fincom to offer no opinion on this article. The motion was approved by Fincom and CIB in a roll call vote, 4-0.

Article 2 - Pay bills from a previous year - There are \$36,644 in bills to pay. These bills are for sewer services, and will be paid from Sewer Enterprise retained earnings. Processing procedures of sewer department bills is now being reviewed. Ray Bricault moved and Paul Johnson seconded a motion to endorse the article. The motion was approved by Fincom in a roll call vote, 4-0.

Article 3 - Authorization to amend the bylaws to provide a COLA of 2% for Fire and emergency service personnel - Ray Bricault moved and Pete Murphy seconded a motion to endorse the article. The motion was approved by Fincom in a roll call vote, 4-0.

Article 4 - Authorize transfer of FY23 budget funds - There is no amount available yet. Ray Bricault moved and Pete Murphy seconded a motion for Fincom to pass over this article. The motion was approved by Fincom in a roll call vote, 4-0.

Article 5 - Authorization to appropriate State transportation funds - Ray Bricault moved and Paul Johnson seconded a motion to endorse the article. The motion was approved by Fincom in a roll call vote, 4-0.

Article 6 - Appropriate Capital Improvement funds - This article was voted previously by CIB and Fincom.

Article 7 - Ambulance purchase - This article was voted previously by CIB and Fincom.

Article 8 - Authorization to appropriate \$75,000 to OPEB trust funds - Pete Murphy moved and Paul Bohnson seconded a motion to endorse the article. The motion was approved by Fincom in a roll call vote, 4-0.

Article 9 - Authorize CPC expense - \$25,000 for affordable housing consultation. Pete Murphy moved and Paul Bohnson seconded a motion to endorse the article. The motion was approved by Fincom in a roll call vote, 5-0.

Bill Fay joined the meeting.

Article 10 - Appropriate Cannabis funds to reduce the tax rate - Ray Bricault moved and Bill Fay seconded a motion to endorse the article. The motion was approved by Fincom in a roll call vote, 5-0.

Article 11 - Appropriate funds to the CIF - The Town Administrator estimated \$500,000 or more is expected to be added to the Capital Investment Fund. Bill Fay moved and Paul Bohannon seconded a motion to endorse the article for at least \$500,000. The motion was approved by Fincom by a roll call vote of 5-0 and by CIB by a roll call vote of 5-0.

Article 12 - Appropriate funds to the Stabilization Fund - No amount is yet available. The fund is at 6% of the FY23 budget. Ray Bricault moved and Paul Bohannon seconded a motion to endorse the article up to \$200,000. The motion was approved by Fincom by a roll call vote of 5-0 and by CIB by a roll call vote of 5-0.

Article 13 - Authorization to appropriate handicap parking fines - Ray Bricault moved and Pete Murphy seconded a motion to endorse the article. The motion was approved by Fincom in a roll call vote, 5-0.

The next meeting will be Monday, October 17, at 6:30 pm before town meeting at the HS/MS cafeteria..

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm as moved by Pete Murphy and seconded by Bill Fay.

Pete Murphy
Secretary, Fincom and CIB