

**Town of West Boylston
Finance Committee and Capital Investment Board
Meeting of May 11, 2016**

A joint meeting of Fincom and CIB was convened at 7:00 pm at the town hall. Attending were James Bedard, Chris Berglund, Ray Bricault, Bill Fay, and Pete Murphy. Absent were Pat Bryant, Dave Eckhardt, Pavel Loven, and Jim Marinelli.

Steve Blake and Bob Dunne of the Parks and Recreation committee presented two proposed projects for Community Preservation funds.

- Drilling and connecting an artesian well to the Goodale Street reservoir and field irrigation system was presented. The estimated cost is \$17,500. The current well is shallow and does not produce enough water during the summer to keep the fields in acceptable condition for activities. The proposed well should provide adequate additional water. The cost estimate includes drilling to 1000 feet to be sure the well will produce adequate water. There is a small risk that the well will not find adequate water. The committee believes that risk is low enough to proceed with the well. Data on field water usage was presented along with the cost of equivalent water from the public water system. The well payback is good.
- An expanded sports practice field was proposed. The existing practice field would be extended by 100 feet and the entire field would be re-graded and covered with sod. The estimate is \$52,817. The field is needed because the level of sports activity is very high causing the field to degrade quickly. The re-grading is needed because part of the field is over the old town pool and condition and drainage is poor. The sod (\$13,500) will allow the field to be used almost immediately, instead of waiting 2 years for seed to mature. This field is not consistent with long term master plan for the park and will eventually have to be moved to fully implement that plan.
- There was discussion about whether the proposed practice field could practically proceed without a new well. The Parks committee believes the well is required to maintain the field.

The new Town Administrator Anita Scheipers was introduced.

The FY17 budget and Town Meeting Warrant were reviewed with the Town Administrator:

- The FY17 revenue budget is based on the governor's budget proposal, which includes the lowest likely revenue for the town.
- The FY17 budget will require \$20,000 of free cash from FY16 to close the deficit.
- Article 7 - The FY16 budget fix. The total is \$395,236.17. Included in the fix is an additional \$14,000 for legal expenses due to the zoning dispute over the Wayne's weapons range. The legal budget for next year remains unchanged at \$80,000, since the expense this year was extraordinary. Also included are

- \$15,000 for police overtime and \$20,000 for police communication due to dispatch cost overruns that will be corrected by dispatch regionalization. Final snow removal costs are also in this total. Chris Berglund moved for Fincom to endorse the article, Bill Fay seconded and approval was voted 5-0.
- Article 8 – Previous year billings. \$748 for building inspector mileage. Chris Berglund moved for Fincom to endorse the article, Bill Fay seconded and approval was voted 5-0.
 - Article 9 – Sewer Enterprise. Financial information is incomplete. Chris Berglund moved for Fincom to take no position on the article with the explanation that the financial information is inadequate, Pete Murphy seconded and approval was voted 5-0. The Town Administrator offered to try to obtain better financial information from the Town Accountant.
 - Article 14 – Parks and Recreation. \$5000 for fertilizer. This remains outside the Parks budget until a town employee can be licensed for application. Chris Berglund moved for Fincom to endorse the article, Bill Fay seconded and approval was voted 5-0.
 - Article 15 – Cemetery. \$27,350 from sale of lots reserve to pave cemetery roads. Bill Fay agreed to investigate the total in this reserve to be sure there is still an adequate balance for unexpected needs. Chris Berglund moved for Fincom to endorse the article, Bill Fay seconded and approval was voted 5-0.
 - Article 16 – Parks and Recreation CPC Proposals. Bill Fay moved for Fincom to endorse part B (Well) of the article and inform Town Meeting that part B is a requirement to move forward with part A, James Bedard seconded and approval was voted 5-0.
 - Article 18 – Unemployment Trust Fund. \$20,000 are proposed to be added to this fund. The reason for this proposal is unknown. The Town Administrator will provide more information. Ray Bricault moved for Fincom to pass over this article, Chris Berglund seconded, approval was voted 5-0.
 - Article 19 – Mixter Property Covenant. There was a brief discussion with the Town Administrator. The article was previously endorsed by Fincom.
 - Article 20 – Senior Center Study. \$10,000 for a building study. Pete Murphy moved for Fincom to offer no opinion on the article, Bill Fay seconded and approval was voted 5-0.
 - Article 22 – Town Clerk Appointment. There was a brief discussion with the Town Administrator. The article was previously endorsed by Fincom.
 - Article 27 – Municipal Light Solar Lease. There was a brief discussion about the lease payment and the town liability with the Town Administrator. The article was previously endorsed by Fincom.
 - Article 12 – Capital Improvement Purchases. The library carpet (\$93,000) was previously endorsed by Fincom and CIB. Ray Bricault moved for CIB and Fincom to endorse \$17,000 for new fire station rear garage doors, Bill Fay seconded and approval was voted 4-0 for CIB and 5-0 for Fincom. Ray Bricault moved for CIB and Fincom to pass over the schools request for a generator pending receipt of more information on maintenance costs and on

grant status, James Bedard seconded for Fincom and Pete Murphy seconded for CIB, and approval was voted 4-0 for CIB and 5-0 for Fincom. Ray Bricault moved for CIB and Fincom to pass over all remaining capital requests pending receipt of better financial justification, Chris Berglund seconded and approval was voted 4-0 for CIB and 5-0 for Fincom.

The meeting adjourned at 9:11 pm. The next meeting is at 6:15 pm on Monday, May 16, at the MS/HS School prior to Town Meeting.

Pete Murphy
Secretary