

**Town of West Boylston  
Finance and CIB Committee  
Meeting of September 21, 2016**

A meeting of Fincom and CIB was convened at 8:05 pm in the town hall following the Board of Selectmen meeting. Attending were Chris Berglund, Paul Bohnson, Ray Bricault, Jaime Desanti, Bill Fay, Pavel Loven, James Marinelli, and Pete Murphy. Absent were James Bedard and Pat Bryant.

The minutes of meeting from July 27, 2016 were approved.

The draft October Town Meeting warrant presented by the Board of Selectmen was reviewed:

- The major article on the warrant is the request to raise the approved debt exclusion for the new police station from \$2.9 million to \$5 million, an increase of \$2.1 million. The original estimate was wrong. The estimator was not qualified to do the estimate and the boards reviewing the estimate did not challenge the details. The FISP committee and the Board of Selectmen will admit to town meeting that they did not perform the due diligence required to insure the accuracy of the estimate. The good news is that the tax rate will not increase with this additional borrowing due to expiration of and high paydown rates on other debt exclusions.
- The only capital investment article on the warrant is a request from the DPW to purchase a new loader. This article has been reviewed before by the committee. Action was postponed until a new DPW Director was selected. The committee decided to invite the DPW Director to a meeting to discuss this purchase and other potential capital replacements.
- The Fire Department has 3 purchase requests that are each under \$20,000, however, together they total more than \$20,000. The Selectmen decided to make these a single article on the warrant. Chris Berglund will investigate whether these items will be presented separately at Town Meeting.
- Chris Berglund reported that the Capital Investment Fund balance is \$548,743.
- The Police Department submitted a request for a new cruiser as a capital article. Cruisers have been considered a consumable and included in the operating budget. Chris Berglund will inform the new Town Administrator of this policy.
- The Police Department requested \$72,000 for dispatch training for the new regional dispatch system. This cost is high because it includes overtime to attend the training. The committee discussed whether grants might be available for some of this cost.
- The Cemetery Trustees have included an article to transfer \$17,000 from the plot purchase fund to buy a lawn mower. The committee commented that this is a very expensive mower.

- The Town Clerk has requested \$6400 as an addition to the voting budget due to additional elections and the presidential election. The committee does not have the details of these extra costs.

The Town Administrator has said that funding for all of these articles, except the Police Station, will come from available raise and appropriate tax funds.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, September 28. The DPW Director will be invited.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Pete Murphy  
Secretary  
Fincom & CIB