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**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND TAXATION
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2023 6:00 PM
Room A132, Stoughton Senior High School
232 School Street, Stoughton, MA 02072**

Agenda items may be taken out of order at Chairman's Discretion

1. Mr. Vaughan Enokian, Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.
2. Mr. Enokian asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Anzivino made the motion to open the meeting, seconded by Mr. Lurie. The motion passed.
Present: Vaughan Enokian Chair, John Anzivino Vice Chair, Dianne Dolan, Secretary, Laura Gunn, Adam Iacabucci, David Lurie, Dr. Jess Miner, Joel Wolk
Absent: Eric Anderson, Chet Collins, Bob Desmond, Elliot Hansen, Mark Struck, John Walsh, Kerry Marrocco

3. Request for Inter-Departmental Transfer for Fleet Maintenance (Fuel and Vehicle and Equipment Repairs) in the amount of \$31,561 from Sanitation Salaries to Fleet Maintenance Expenses (votes may be taken). Mr. Paul Giffune DPW Superintendent
Mr. Giffune explained that the amount budgeted was insufficient and the request for the transfer is to cover invoices expected until the end of the fiscal year.

4. Request for Inter-Departmental Transfer for Fleet Maintenance (Fuel and Vehicle and Equipment Repairs) in the amount of \$42,000 from DPW Administration Salaries to Fleet Maintenance Expenses (votes may be taken).

Mr. Lurie asked if the amounts requested were available. Mr. Wolk asked if the requests had been approved by the Select Board. Mr. Giffune responded yes to both questions.

Mr. Anzivino made the motion to approve the request for a transfer from Sanitation Salaries to Fleet Maintenance Expenses in the amount of \$31,561 and to approve the request for a transfer from DPW Administration Salaries to Fleet Maintenance Expenses in the amount of \$42,000. Mr. Lurie seconded the motion.

Mr. Enokian asked if the amount presented to town meeting for FY24 is a lower amount than in FY23.

Mr. Rowe, town accountant provided the following: \$400,000 FY24 compared to \$427,000 approximately for FY23. The committee voted unanimously to approve the requests as stated in item 3 and item 4.

5. Request for Inter-Departmental Transfer for Treasurer/Collector (Expenses) in the amount of \$15,500 from Auditing and Analytics Salaries to Treasurer/Collector Expenses (votes may be taken.) Ms. Paula Nute explained that this was a request due to a typographical error in the preparation of the spread sheet reference the amount budgeted for the tax title attorney and the need to cover printing and mailing of Tax/Demand Bills. Ms. Nute explained further that

invoices from land court are coming in higher than anticipated, so more funds are needed to cover postage.

Ms. Dolan asked Mr. Rowe if the town had had to borrow to cover the gap between receipt of tax funds caused by errors in the original invoices mailed. Mr. Rowe responded no.

Ms. Nute commented that to date, \$2,000,000 has been received in payments from property tax invoices.

Mr. Iacabucci asked if there should be more communication with residents relative to payment of the taxes.

Ms. Nute countered with last year at this time, 1.5 million had been received in payments from property tax bills.

Dr. Miner asked if the amount requested would cover the mailing of additional bills to be sent out. Ms. Nute responded yes.

Mr. Anzivino made the motion to approve the request for the transfer of \$15,500 from Auditing and Analytics Salaries to Treasurer/Collector Expenses. Mr. Lurie seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to approve.

6. Request for Inter-Departmental Transfer for Moderator (Expenses) in the amount of \$4,500 from Auditing and Analytics Salaries to Moderator Expenses (votes may be taken.) Mr. Bob Mullen, town moderator

Mr. Mullen explained this request was to make childcare available to town meeting representatives who wish to attend town meeting but have difficulty providing childcare. He offered that next year this request would be included in his budget as a new category.

Ms. Gunn asked why town meeting couldn't be offered on zoom, as during covid.

Mr. Mullen explained that it is difficult to control and to manage the meeting when some are on zoom and others live. He said the hybrid model is unfavorable to most town moderators.

Ms. Gunn asked could other platforms be researched that might be more effective than google meets?

Ms. Dolan interjected that the town meeting in Wayland is held on Saturday. She said money could be saved if meetings were on Saturday.

Ms. Cynthia Walsh, 1096 Park Street, reminded the committee that Saturday meetings may not be welcomed by the Jewish community.

Mr. Anzivino made the motion to approve the request for a transfer of \$4,500 from Auditing and Analytics Salaries to Moderator Expenses. Ms. Gunn seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to approve the request.

Ms. Dolan made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Gunn. The motion passed and the open session of the Finance Committee, May 10, 2023 was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Committee on Finance and Taxation
Wednesday, May 10, 2023 6:00 PM



