April 12, 2023

Meeting of the Finance Committee held on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, beginning at 6:01 p.m. in the Selectmen's Conference Room, Town Hall.

Members present: Darlene Cincone, Aneta Lombardi, Tony Sanches, Susanne Boyea and Matais Goncalves

Members excused: none

Mr. Marc Strange was also present.

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2023 MAY 10 A 8:09
TOWN OF LUDLOW, MA

First Order of Business: The Pledge of Allegiance

At this time the committee elected officers for fiscal year 2023:

- Ms. Cincone nominated Mr. Sanches for the chairman position. Seconded by Ms. Lombardi. Vote: 4-0 in favor
- Ms. Cincone nominated Ms. Lombardi for the vice-chair position. Seconded by Ms. Boyea. Vote: 4-0 in favor
- Ms. Cincone nominated Ms. Lombardi for the secretary position. Seconded by Mr. Goncalves. Vote: 4-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Cincone, seconded by Ms. Lombardi to approve and sign the Finance Committee Minutes of March 22, 2023, as indicated.
Vote: 3-0-2 in favor

Moved by Ms. Cincone, seconded by Ms. Boyea to approve and sign the Finance Committee Minutes of March 28, 2023, as indicated.
Vote: 4-0-1 in favor

Moved by Ms. Lombardi, seconded by Mr. Goncalves to approve and sign the Finance Committee Minutes of April 4, 2023, as indicated.
Vote: 3-0-2 in favor

Following the election of officers, the committee discussed the 2024 budget. Mr. Strange noted the following:

- The School Committee voted on their budget in the amount of $35,949,944, which represents a 4.76% increase over fiscal year 2023.
- DPW budget – removed $40,000 for an extra line item for consulting.
- Salaries adjustment in the Health Department.

Including these changes, the current Level 2 budget is $94,549 under levy capacity.

There is currently one more outstanding item for the bond payment if the bond for public safety complex is authorized during the May 8th Town Meeting, but it should be relatively low. The

amount should be known by April 18th. Mr. Strange will also send the committee the list of capital projects.

The Board of Selectmen will be voting on the warrant articles on April 18th and will be closing the warrant then. The Finance committee will meet at 6:30 pm right before the Town Meeting on May 8th to discuss the warrant articles.

Moved by Ms. Cincone, seconded by Ms. Lombardi to accept the 2024 budget as presented, noting that just before the Town Meeting a change might need to be made. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

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Correspondence:

- Board of Assessors was reorganized for 2023.
- Department of Public Works – Snow and Ice Removal Budget has been over expended as of March 1, 2023. The Board is requesting that the Board of Selectmen officially declare a State of Emergency for the town, so that over expended invoices may be processed for payment.
- Board of Selectmen – voted to declare a State of Emergency as of December 31, 2022, due to the over expended snow and ice budget.
- COVID-19 remote rules expired as of March 31, 2023.

Moved by Ms. Cincone, seconded by Ms. Lombardi to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Vote: 5-0 in favor.

Ludlow Finance Committee