

November 6, 2024

Meeting of Finance Committee held on Wednesday, November 6, 2024, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Hearing Room, Town Hall.

Members present: Tony Sanches, Aneta Lombardi, Michael Kelley, Mike Kelliher, Susanne Boyea, Dolly Cincone and Matais Goncalves

Members excused: none

Mr. Marc Strange, Mr. Jamie Tomas and Mr. Jim Goodreau were also present.

First Order of Business: The Pledge of Allegiance

Visitations: from the DPW Department Mr. Tomas and Mr. Goodreau to discuss management of overtime. After going thorough their whole budget, items to mention include:

- Labor-salaries-temporary at 65% of budget – this is the summer help line-item, majority of expenses are the beginning of the fiscal year in July and August before they go back to school.
- Architectural-engineering services at 94% of budget – this work is for the MS4 stormwater permit and a PO for this work is already set up and counted for within these numbers.
- Snow/ice vehicle repairs/maintenance at 67% of budget – trucks are getting ready for the winter season and necessary repairs are being made.
- Union contract is not currently settled for this year yet. The current budgeted number is 3%. Depending on what is agreed upon DPW might need about \$80,000 in this year's budget to meet contractual demands. This would carry over to the next year where the estimated increase in the laborer salaries would be \$125,000.

Trash collection update – after much discussion and meetings the estimated savings would be about \$100,000 less next year. The Town will need to purchase 7,400 (66 gallons) and 7,400 (95 gallons) carts for the switch to automated collection. After discussions with the cart company, the Town will be allowed to pay a \$12,000 monthly fee for \$150,000 in total. DPW is anticipating that they will need an additional \$50,000 compared to this year for trash services next year. With the Town purchasing the cart instead of the hauler, the Town will save about \$70,000 a year.

Afterwards, Mr. Strange provided an update to Free Cash certification. The reconciliation will be completed over the next couple of months. FY 2024 will be then closed out and entered into Gateway software for the State to review. Once reviewed it should be certified at some point in December.

Mr. Strange then reviewed YTD expenditures for FY 2025. Overtime and the IT department are overbudget. Mr. Strange will follow up on the IT budget overage.

Afterwards, the 2026 budget timeline and process were reviewed. Level 1 budgets are due by November 15th. Trash fees are anticipated to increase next year. The school budget will be at 4%

for Level 1 estimate. The committee also discussed the possibility of eliminating Dispatch. More discussion to follow at the next meeting.

Moved by Mr. Kelliher, seconded by Mr. Goncalves to approve and sign the Finance Committee Minutes of September 18, 2024, as indicated.

Vote: 6-0-1 in favor.

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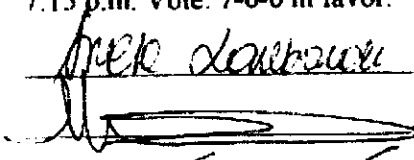
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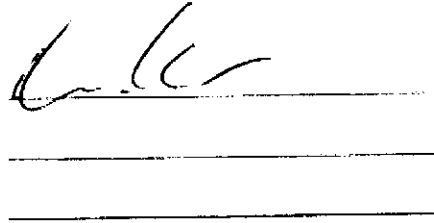
Moved by Mr. Kelliher, seconded by Ms. Cincone to approve and sign the Finance Committee Minutes of October 2, 2024, as indicated.

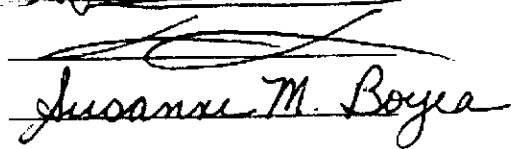
Vote: 5-0-2 in favor

TOWN OF LUDLOW

Moved by Ms. Cincone, seconded by Ms. Boyea to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting at 7:15 p.m. Vote: 7-0-0 in favor.







Ludlow Finance Committee