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TOWN OF BURLINGTON

Meeting Minutes - Ways and Means Committee

DEPT./BOARD: Ways and Means
DATE: January 20, 2021
TIME: 7pm
PLACE: WebEx Conference Call

Members Present: Steve Morin – Chair, John Iler – Vice Chair, Brad Bond, Cody Case, Doug Davison, Phil Gallagher, Mike Hardy, Frank Monaco, Rob Neufeld, Kelly Pappas, Roger Riggs, Sonia Rollins, David Tait, Jayashree Voruganti

Members Absent: *Tom Killilea*

Guests:

Paul Sagarino, Town Administrator
Dr. Ed Weiner, Chair, Board of Health
Susan Lumenello, Director of Public Health
Dr. Wayne Saltsman
David McSweeney, Vice Chair, Board of Health
John Sanchez, Director, Department of Public Works
John Danizio, Town Accountant

Public Participation

N/A

Warrant Article Review

Article #4: Board of Health - Associate Director of Public Health

The purpose of this warrant article is to fund wages for an Associate Director of Public Health position in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 for the remainder of FY 2021. The representatives of the Board of Health argued that this position would reduce staffing limitations present for years and caused by high volume of work. This situation has been exacerbated by additional work created by the Covid-19 pandemic, including contact tracing, community education, enforcement, and organizing Burlington's vaccination program. Mr. Sagarino, the Town Administrator, stated that he supports the idea of this position but believes that more analysis is needed prior to committing creating a new position, especially in times of financial hardship for the town. Mr. Sagarino also argued that Burlington should be compared to surrounding towns with less public health staffing. The Committee discussed the merits of each position and the Ways and Means Committee's responsibility to consider primarily the financial repercussions of each warrant article. The source of this funding would necessarily be Free Cash. The subcommittee voted 3-0 to support this article.

Roger Riggs motioned to approve the warrant article and John Iler seconded the motion. The motion passed, 9-5-0.





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Yes: Brad Bond, David Tait, Frank Monaco, Jayashree Voruganti, John Iler, Mike Hardy, Rob Neufeld, Roger Riggs, Steve Morin

No: Cody Case, Doug Davison, Kelly Pappas, Phil Gallagher, Sonia Rollins

Abstentions: N/A

Article #5: Replenish Reserve Fund

This warrant article is to transfer \$100,000 from Free Cash to budget line item 92 - reserve fund. This is in place for emergency situations and begins the fiscal year with \$200,000; once Free Cash is certified another \$100,000 is added to the reserve fund bringing the total to \$300,000. To date nothing has been used and any remaining monies will be returned to Free Cash at the end of the fiscal year. The subcommittee voted 2-0 to support this article.

Sonia Rollins motioned to approve the warrant article and Roger Riggs seconded the motion. The motion passed, 14-0-0.

Yes: Brad Bond, Cody Case, Doug Davison, Phil Gallagher, Mike Hardy, John Iler, Frank Monaco, Rob Neufeld, Kelly Pappas, Roger Riggs, Sonia Rollins, David Tait, Jayashree Voruganti, Steve Morin

No: N/A

Abstentions: N/A

Article #6: Transportation Infrastructure Fund

This warrant article is to use \$55,235 from Receipts Reserved for Appropriation- Commonwealth Transportation Infrastructure Fund offset some of the expenses associated with the Town's new ride share program put in place to replace the B-Line.

Sonia Rollins motioned to approve the warrant article and Roger Riggs seconded the motion. The motion passed, 14-0-0.

Yes: Brad Bond, Cody Case, Doug Davison, Phil Gallagher, Mike Hardy, John Iler, Frank Monaco, Rob Neufeld, Kelly Pappas, Roger Riggs, Sonia Rollins, David Tait, Jayashree Voruganti, Steve Morin

No: N/A

Abstentions: N/A

Article #7: Transfer from Free Cash to Water Stabilization Fund

This warrant article is to transfer \$534,141 from Free Cash into the Water Stabilization Fund. At the spring Town Meeting the town will request authorization to spend from the Water Stabilization Fund to offset the operating expenses of the coming fiscal year's budget.

Roger Riggs motioned to approve the warrant article and Sonia Rollins seconded the motion. The motion passed, 14-0-0.

Yes: Brad Bond, Cody Case, Doug Davison, Phil Gallagher, Mike Hardy, John Iler, Frank Monaco, Rob Neufeld, Kelly Pappas, Roger Riggs, Sonia Rollins, David Tait, Jayashree Voruganti, Steve Morin

No: N/A

Abstentions: N/A





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Article #8: Phase 2A MWRA Water Connection

This warrant article is to appropriate \$9,900,000 to be expended under the direction of the Town Administrator to pay for the connection construction under phase 2A of the MWRA Water Connection plan. The subcommittee voted to approve 2-0.

Sonia Rollins motioned to approve the warrant article and Roger Riggs seconded the motion. The motion passed, 14-0-0.

Yes: Brad Bond, Cody Case, Doug Davison, Phil Gallagher, Mike Hardy, John Iler, Frank Monaco, Rob Neufeld, Kelly Pappas, Roger Riggs, Sonia Rollins, David Tait, Jayashree Voruganti, Steve Morin

No: N/A

Abstentions: N/A

Article #9: COVID-19 Testing Program - withdrawn

Article #10: Amend the FY2021 Operating Budget - Local Education - withdrawn

Approval of Previous Minutes

July 15, 2020 and September 23, 2020 Minutes

Phil Gallagher motioned to approve the minutes as distributed on January 17, 2021 and David Tait seconded the motion. The motion passed, 11-0-3.

Yes: Brad Bond, Doug Davison, Phil Gallagher, Mike Hardy, John Iler, Frank Monaco, Rob Neufeld, Sonia Rollins, David Tait, Jayashree Voruganti, Steve Morin

No: N/A

Abstentions: Cody Case, Kelly Pappas, Roger Riggs

Adjourned

Documents Reviewed:

- Backup materials for warrant articles

