

Weare Finance Committee Minutes for 22 Oct

1. The Weare Finance Committee met at the Town Offices on Thursday 22 October at 7pm. Members in attendance were Lori Davis, Matt Whitlock, Bill Anderson, Keith Erf, Rochelle Pitkaniemi, David Recupero, Peter Mennis, Russ Hammond, Stephen Wallace, and Gregg McDowell. Also in attendance was Town Moderator John Foss and Weare School Board member Marge Burke.
2. Membership. Town Moderator John Foss swore in Rochelle Pitkaniemi as a returning member and Gregg McDowell as a new committee member. This brings committee membership to eleven members, which leaves two of thirteen positions unfilled.
3. Business.
 - a. Broadcasting/Recording. As a follow up to last month's discussion on the meeting format, Moderator Foss had checked with Town Counsel. There is no requirement to either videotape or audio record committee meetings; the committee members/town moderator can choose to audio record or not audio record minutes. Committee members and Moderator Foss further discussed the pros and cons of recording the meetings for record purposes. At this time the committee is continuing the historical format of not recording the meetings and publishing written minutes after scheduled meetings.
 - b. Budget Reports.
 1. Town/CIP. Continue to monitor selectman meetings as they work to develop the town budget. Chairman Davis is working to set up times with respective department heads and CIP Chairman Dearborn to meet with the finance committee in November/December to discuss proposed budget and proposed CIP warrant articles.
 2. Weare Schools. Marge Burke stated the Weare School Board would be taking a first pass at next year's budget at their November meeting. Contract negotiations are still in progress for teachers and paraprofessionals.
 3. John Stark. Committee representatives attending the Stark School Board expressed concern over the potential impact of a proposed energy audit/maintenance contract on the proposed school budget. This could also affect Weare Schools if the concept was expanded in the SAU. The Finance Committee is concerned whether the process is having a proper needs assessment and cost/benefit analysis.
 4. Meeting Schedule. A series of Thursday 7pm meetings at the town offices have been scheduled for the finance committee on the following dates - 12 Nov, 19 Nov, 3 Dec, and 10 Dec. Follow on correspondence from Chairman Davis will outline specifics.
 5. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 8:40pm. Next meeting is 12 Nov 7pm at the town offices.

Bill Anderson/Secretary