

WEARE FINANCE COMMITTEE OCTOBER 17, 2018

1. The Weare Finance Committee met on Wednesday 17 Oct at 7pm at the Town Offices. Present were members Lori Davis, Neal Kurk, Bill Anderson, Gregg McDowell, Sue Morin, James Drury, Megan Thellen, Donna Osborne, Tom Clow, and Tammi Hagman. Members Keith Erf, Ellen Dokton, Dennis Aubin and alternate Chris Hayes were absent. Also present was Town Administrator Naomi Bolton, Weare School Board chairman Marge Burke, and Finance administrator Beth Rouse.
2. Business. The meeting provided members an update on the progress of budget developments for the town and schools. Members attending town and school board meetings are encouraged to ask questions and bring information back to Finance. Questions should be asked to gain information without being judgemental.
 - a. CIP. The CIP Subcommittee completed its work with the departments. Its recommendations are expected to be made to the Planning Board at their 8 Nov meeting. A summary of their recommendations have been provided to the Finance Committee members in an earlier email. This year's proposals have a net tax impact of \$972K as compared to \$873K last year. Background material for road reconstruction proposals was provided to members. This will be a major consideration as historical funding has not kept up with needs. We expect CIP Chairman Jack Dearborn and Department Heads will provide CIP recommendations to Finance at our next meeting on 28 November.
 - b. Town. The 2018 tax rate of \$23.03 reflects a 2 cent decline over 2017. The 2019 Default budget was provided to members. Preliminary 2019 proposed budgets for departments should be ready by Veterans Day. Background budget material showing 2016-2018 expenses as compared to the 2018 approved budget was provided to members. We expect to start reviewing 2019 department budgets at our 28 Nov meeting.
 - c. Schools. The Weare School District will begin budget discussions in November. In addition to their budget, contracts for teachers and support staff, kindergarten, and energy projects are all under consideration. The school board is reviewing different options for a full day kindergarten and space/budget impacts. The State currently provides \$1800/student for half day kindergarten; another \$1100/student would be provided for full day. State Rep Neal Kurk noted there is still an additional estimated annual cost to taxpayers of \$70K to expand to full day kindergarten.
3. Administrative. Draft minutes for the 26 September meeting were approved.
4. Meetings. Next Finance Committee meeting will be 630pm Wed 28 Nov at the Town Offices. The meeting will start earlier than our normal time to accommodate an expected lengthy meeting involving CIP and budget

discussions with Department Heads. We will also tentatively meet on Wed 5 Dec and Wed 12 Dec. Members unable to attend are encouraged to let Chairman Davis know in advance.

5. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 8pm.

Bill Anderson
Secretary