

WEARE FINANCE COMMITTEE

JANUARY 16, 17, 2019

1. The Weare Finance Committee met on Wednesday 16-17 January at 630pm at the Town Offices. All Committee members were present for the 16 Jan session. Also present were Town Administrator Bolton, SAU 24 Superintendent Dr Lorraine Tacconi-Moore, SAU Business Administrator Kathleen Sargent, Weare School Board Chair Marge Burke, other school representatives, Fire Chief Bob Vezina, and Board of Fire Wards Chair Steve Roberts. For the 17 Jan session, all Committee members were present except Gregg McDowell and Meg Thellin.. Also present were Town Administrator Bolton, Board of Selectmen Chair Ricky Hippler, Selectman Jon Osborne, and Library Director Mike Sullivan.
2. Business. On 16 Jan Fire Department clarified existing warrant articles; the Committee completed preliminary voting on John Stark and Weare School warrant articles. The Committee then recessed at 945pm. The Committee reconvened at 630pm 17 Jan to discuss town budget and warrant articles with Town Administrator Bolton.
 - A. Fire. Chief Vezina and Steve Roberts were present to clarify any misunderstanding on fire related warrant articles. The two articles regarding standby pay and full time EMT/Firefighter positions are stand alone and unrelated. Standby pay would provide one hour of pay for every 4 hours ~~on~~ call+ between 10pm and 7am when the station is not manned. Currently ~~on~~ call+ personnel are not paid unless called in. The full time article will provide funding for two(2) EMT/FF positions. If approved by voters the operating budget regarding per diem EMT/FF costs would be decreased by approximately \$39K. This would be the first step in transitioning to a ~~hybrid~~+ (combined FT/per diem personnel) department. Overnight coverage would remain on call 10-7, at least in year one. Chief Vezina also clarified that the article to purchase a rigid hull inflatable boat (RHIB) would provide an upgrade in response for water emergencies. The existing zodiac (rubber boat) is limited in speed, cannot get up on step, and therefore is less than satisfactory where time is of the essence in a water emergency.
 - B. John Stark Warrant Articles. After deliberation, the Committee voted as follows:
 1. Article 3 Proposed Operating Budget. **RECOMMENDED (9-4)**
 2. Article 4 Support Personnel Contract. **RECOMMENDED (11-1-1)**
 3. Article 5 School Resource Officer. **NOT RECOMMENDED (1-11-1)**
 4. Article 6 Special Ed Expendable Trust. **NOT RECOMMENDED (3-10)**
 5. Article 7 Capital Improvement Expendable Trust fund. **NOT RECOMMENDED (1-11-1)**
 - C. Weare Schools. After deliberation the Committee voted as follows:
 1. Article 3 Proposed Operating Budget. **RECOMMENDED (10-3)**
 2. Article 4 TeachersqContract. **RECOMMENDED (12-1)**
 3. Article 5 Support Staff Contract. **RECOMMENDED (10-3)**
 4. Article 6 Full Day Kindergarten. **NOT RECOMMENDED (1-12)**
 5. Article 7 School Resource Officer **NOT RECOMMENDED (1-11-1)**
 6. Article 8 Energy Saving Equipment . **RECOMMENDED (12-1)**
 - D. Town. Voting on Town warrant articles is scheduled for the 24 January Committee meeting. The 17 Jan session allowed the Committee to openly discuss proposed town warrant articles and provide the Town Administrator and Board of Selectman Chair a sense of where the Committee stood on budget and warrant articles.

3. Administrative. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 24 Jan at 7pm at the Town Offices to conduct preliminary voting on Town warrant articles.
4. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 10pm Thurs 17 Jan.

Bill Anderson