

Minutes of the August 3, 2023 Finance Committee

Members

Shaun Galliher

Heather Brown

Bonnie Conner

Mary Rice

Russ Parks

Tracey Lussier

Absent

Sarah Baumann

Jim Chivers

Other

Bob Graves, Town Administrator

The meeting was opened at 6:30 pm.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the July 6, 2023 meeting as written. The motion passed with 2 abstaining. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the July 14, 2023 meeting as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Bob Graves presented an update on several projects in Town. The pad has been completed at the Transfer Station, the culvert has been installed on the Schopp Road Project, and the Peru Road work is moving along with paving expected to be completed by the end of August. Jamie also has a plan to Mill East Washington Road, similar to how he did Adams Road, before Winter. That was a huge success and he feels it will be the same for that road.

Bob reported that he is putting together the bid package for the Plunkett Lake Spillway Project.

Bob also reported that the Water Sewer Bills are expected to go out possibly tomorrow. The W/S administrator, McKenzie Doyle will be working on the anomalies that are within the system and has a good handle on them going forward. Bob also pointed out that he had notified, by mail, all users of the systems about the 15% increase reflected in these bills.

Bob reported that the old Police Cruiser has been sold for 12K. Bob and the Committee also discussed the weed treatment of the lakes by Solitude. They will not be doing the second one as the need is not there according to the mapping. He also said there has been no news on our Highway Truck that was ordered several years ago. He also has applied for the WRAP Grant again this year. Last year the Town was awarded approximately 120K.

The Committee and Bob discussed the recent event where water ran over the newly constructed Middlefield Road in the area of the existing swamp. There has been no known action by the State, who engineered this project.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize payment of the Annual dues to the Massachusetts Association of Town Finance Committees in the amount of \$142.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Galliher will email the link to the Website for everyone. They have a handbook and a lot of information on the site.

Chairman Galliher also reported that everyone that is on a committee or working in a department, is listed as an employee. This needs to be corrected because all are not actually employees as they make less than \$600.00. Many are on Committees with no compensation.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 7:15 pm, the motion passed unanimously. The next regular meeting of this Committee is Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 6:30 pm in the downstairs Community room at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Rice, Secretary