Minutes of the January 4, 2024 Finance Committee

Members	Absent	Other
Shaun Galliher	Tracey Lussier	Bob Graves, Town Administrator
Bonnie Conner		Bart Collins, Select Board Chair
Mary Rice		
Russ Parks		
Heather Brown		
Candy Galeucia		
Sarah Baumann		
Jim Chivers		

The meeting was opened at 6:32 pm.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the December 7, 2023 meeting as written. The motion passed unanimously.

The Committee reviewed the Accountant's report. One question was asked about the percentage expended on Sewer 1 Accounting wages. The Water/Sewer Administator is paid out of the three accounts and this amount reflects that the current payment was out of Sewer 1. The other accounts, Sewer 2, Sewer 3 and Water have lesser percentages expended.

Bob Graves reported that we have received full credit for all Unemployment payments that were paid in error to two former employees. That issue is now resolved in favor of the Town.

Bob also reported that the Town now has a "Flag" policy in place that was voted on by the Select Board. This policy allows only certain flags to be displayed on Town property. It is keeping with the long standing standard and past history of the flags that have ever been displayed on Town of Hinsdale properties. Many organizations are going around the State to get their flag displayed, and this policy will eliminate that possibility in our Town.

Bob presented a possible Budget time line. This will be finalized when the Select Board sets the ATM date. The "tentative" time line is that he will send out Budget Requests by January 22nd that will be due back by February 26th and to our Committee by March 4th. The Saturday meeting could be held on March 9th, budget approved by April 24th and posted by May 3rd. This is based on the ATM being approved for May 15th. All dates will be adjusted accordingly.

Bob reported that our Town Property Insurance is going up substantially. Because our property values went up, the premiums also are going up. This insurance covers vehicles, Water/Sewer, Town Beach, and all property owned by the Town.

Bob and the Committee discussed the CBRSD agreement. He asked that all questions be put in writing and sent to him so he can present them to our Attorney Jay Towne for his review.

Bob also reported that the State has mandated yet another report from the Town that is due by October 24, 2024. This one has about 25 questions per household including what type of pipes they have in their residence, Copper or Lead. This is an odd request because the Town has nothing to do with anything other than the connection from the Street to the property. A questionnaire will be sent to every homeowner. Our Town system has been upgraded over the years and is not an issue.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 7:18 pm, the motion passed unanimously. The next regular meeting of this Committee is Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 6:30 pm in the downstairs Community room at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Rice, Secretary