

OAKHAM FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES , APRIL 28, 2021

Attending: Paul Rochette, Steve Dolinger, Clare Hendra, Brad Taylor, Lucy Tessnau, Don Haapakoski

6:40pm: meeting opened by Paul R. There were no public comments or inquiries to address. Paul R. stated that the time to forward requests for special articles won't expire until Monday eve so that further work on the FY2022 budget should be delayed until the next meeting.

Paul R. explained the Town Hall had a boiler failure and during the initial diagnosis it was also discovered that the hot water heater was leaking . There is insufficient funds in the Town Hall maintenance account to cover the boiler burner repairs and to replace the hot water heater. Replacement parts and labor estimate for both items is approximately \$2700. After discussion Paul R. motioned to transfer \$2700.00 from the reserve account to the Town Hall maintenance account #0100 192 75241 0000 to cover these repairs. Motion 2nded by Steve D. All present voted in favor of this transfer. The original signed transfer request was forwarded to the Town Accountant.

Clare H. stated she attended the Quabbin School Committee meeting and that Committee reduced the overall school system budget to \$35,589,974. This is a 1.7% increase over FY2021. Oakham's FY2022 total operating assessment will be \$2,357,678.27 . This is a 3.14% increase over our FY2021 assessment. We still have approx. \$366,466 in available revenue to work with.

Clare H. addressed the Members of the Select Board that the Finance Committee should be kept informed on ESSR Funds granted to the Town and how they are expended as the FinCom is charged with overseeing the financial well being of the Town.

Paul R. opened the floor to a general discussion with the Selectmen and Brad Taylor explained that the Selectmen would like to set up a line item account that they could use to fund increased working hours of the Town Hall employees; that most have had increased responsibilities and work loads and were not receiving adequate compensation to cover all the major time required to perform the increase in time they were using to accommodate this additional work. This may be added to the request list for the A.T.M.

The prior meeting minutes review was postponed until all FinCom members were in attendance.

The next meeting was set for Wed. eve May 5th, 2021

The meeting was adjourned @ 7:55pm

Paul Rochette, Chair and Recorder