

**Town of Deerfield
Finance Committee
Minutes of the Meeting, March 28, 2023**

Attending: Mark Brennan, Beth Brown, James Cambias (secretary), Julie Chalfant (chair), John Paresky, David Sharp.

Joint meeting with Capital Planning Committee and Select Board.

Also Present: Candace Bradbury Carlin, Brenda Hill, Denise Mason, Nancy Maynard, Trevor McDaniel, Carolyn Shores Ness; Christopher Nolan (via Zoom), Kayce Warren (via Zoom).

Ms. Chalfant called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. on March 28, 2023, in the Deerfield Town Offices building.

Mr. Cambias moved to approve the revised Minutes of the March 23 meeting. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-1.

Mr. Brennan presented the current Capital Project Plan.

Mr. Paresky moved that the Finance Committee contact the Community Preservation Committee to advocate the use of \$48,693.38 for Deerfield's share of the Frontier Regional High School tennis court replacement. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Mr. Brennan moved to recommend the sum of \$5,265,247 for the Deerfield Elementary School budget (account 300-5400). Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed, 6-0-0.

Mr. Paresky moved to recommend the sum of \$422,051 for Maturing Debt (account 710-5900). Ms. Brown seconded the motion. This is all repaying the principal on outstanding loans, and includes the final payment on the Elementary School roof. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Cambias moved to recommend the sum of \$234,941 for Interest on Maturing Debt (account 751-5900). Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Brown moved to recommend the sum of \$5000 for Interest on Temporary Loans (account 752-5900). Mr. Paresky seconded the motion. This sum is to cover borrowing for unanticipated expenses, if necessary. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Brennan moved to recommend the sum of \$846,065 for Sewer Debt Service. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. This represents the Town's share of payments on the Wastewater Treatment Plant debt. The motion passed 6-0-0.

Mr. Cambias moved to recommend the sum of \$355,826 for Deerfield's share of the South County EMS budget. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. Ms. Chalfant introduced an amendment, reducing the sum to \$345,826 with the suggestion that the entire budget be reduced by \$20,000. Mr. Brennan seconded the motion to amend. The amendment passed 6-0-0. The motion as amended passed 6-0-0.

Ms. Bradbury Carlin briefed the Committee on the Tilton Library budget. Funding is mostly level, with the Head of Adult Services increasing to over 20 hours a week, putting it in the category for benefits.

Mr. Paresky moved to recommend the sum of \$210,068 for the Tilton Library budget (account 610-5400). Ms. Brown seconded the motion. After considerable discussion the motion passed, 4-1-1.

Mr. Sharp moved to recommend the sum of \$101,880 for Town Clerk salaries (account 161-5110). Ms. Brown seconded the motion. After considerable discussion Mr. Brennan moved to call the question. Mr. Cambias seconded that motion. The motion to vote passed unanimously. The original motion passed, 5-0-1.

Mr. Brennan moved to recommend the sum of \$22,850 for Town Clerk Expenses (account 161-5410). Ms. Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Brennan moved to recommend the sum of \$349,168 for Select Board Staff salaries (account 122-5110). Mr. Sharp seconded the motion. This would add a position for Planner/Economic Development Coordinator as a full time Class F job. Considerable discussion. The motion passed 4-2-0.

Mr. Cambias moved to recommend the sum of \$100,000 for the Reserve Fund (account 132-5400). Ms. Brown seconded the motion. After some discussion, the motion and second were withdrawn.

Ms. Brown moved to adjourn. Mr. Cambias seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the Finance Committee meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.