

TOWN OF CHESTER, CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, February 16, 2023
Community Room
Chester Town Hall and via TEAMS

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman O'Hare called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance included: John O'Hare, Deb Vilcheck, Bill Bernhart, Andrew Gardner Steve Cline, John Chillock (not seated), Roger Labrecque (not seated). Also in attendance, First Selectwoman Janecek, Peter Evankow, Finance Manager, Chief Grzybowski and members of the Hose Company.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –

Bill Bernhart made a motion to approve the minutes from the 1/19/23 meeting as presented. Deb Vilcheck seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW OF BUDGET

John reported that he has met with town departments, the First Selectwoman, Finance Manager, Superintendent of Schools and Business Manager relative to the budget. He stressed the importance of a conservative budget. The Region 4, Supervision District and CES budget process is underway and has not yet been finalized. It is anticipated that Chester's ADM will decrease.

ARPA

Charlene updated the BOF on the BOS's ARPA requests.

Bill Bernhart made a motion to consent and approve an appropriation using the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$41,700 for Building – OSHA Compliance, to be funded as follows (pending Town Meeting approval).

Transfer

From 30-01-80-0000-804	ARPA – Tech Remote/Hybrid Meetings	\$18,265.10
From 30-01-80-0000-805	ARPA – Police Camera Data Storage	\$7,884.96
From 30-05-80-0000-800	ARPA – unassigned	\$15,549.94
To:	Building – OSHA – Compliance	\$41,700-00

He further moved to consent and approve an appropriation using the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$14,800 for Public Works – Equipment Maintenance/Purchases (pending Town Meeting approved).

He further moved to consent and approve an appropriation using the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$35,433.88 for Defibrillators for all town buildings (pending Town Meeting approval).

Andrew Gardner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CHESTER HOSE COMPANY FIRE TRUCK PURCHASE REQUEST

Chief Grzybowski provided an update on the Fire Truck purchase request. He was available to address questions/comments posed by BOF members. Peter Evankow reported on the appropriate financing for the request vis a vis the Fund Balance.

Deb Vilcheck made a motion to appropriate the sum of \$370,000 from the Unassigned General Fund Balance, to the Capital Non-Recurring line item #10-05-62-1000-150 (pending Town Meeting approval).

Authorize the following Capital transfer:

From: 20-00-01-0000-007	BOS – Assigned	\$420,000
To: 20-00-42-0000-062	Fire Protection – Apparatus Replacement	\$420,000

Authorize the expenditure of \$855,000 from the Capital Fund – Fire Protection – Apparatus replacement line item #20-00-42-0000-062 for the purchase of a new fire truck.

Bill Bernhart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Deb Vilcheck made a motion to approve the payment option as recommended by Chief Grzybowski (50% up front). Steve Cline seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The BOF agreed to schedule a Town Meeting on 3/9/23 (the contractor for the fire truck purchase has agreed to hold the price until March; after March, prices go up considerably).

OLD BUSINESS

Financials – Peter updated the BOF on the status of the financials. Of note, the BOE will reduce expenses in lieu of providing a refund check to the Town. The legal budget was discussed (Aaron Manor).

Peter was available to address questions/comments posted by Board members.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 7 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski
Clerk