

MEETING MINUTES

Town of Heath Finance Committee April 7, 2020

Called to order at 7:10 by Chair Ned Wolf with Ken Gilbert, Kathy Inman and Jan Carr present on phones. Alice Wozniak absent.

Reviewed 3/24/2020 minutes – Ken made a motion to approve as amended, Jan seconded. Unanimous approval.

Reviewed 3/31/2020 minutes – Jan made a motion to approve, Ned seconded. Unanimous approval.

Discussed state finances and how a delay in property tax collection would affect Heath. Fincom voted to leave the property tax due date of 5/1/2020 in place with the caveat that there will be no penalty or fines for those who cannot pay until 6/1/2020. Ken made the motion, Kathy seconded. Unanimous approval.

Discussed COLA – FRCOG's Competitive Market Increase of 2.6%, Social Security 1.6%. Also, discussed Minimum Wage Adjustment, but did not fully understand. Total salaries are \$416,000 (excluding accountant's salary or Tim's salary for 18 Jacobs Rd). 2% of \$416,00 = 8,320. 1.5% = \$6,240. Ken made a motion to propose a 1.5% COLA, Kathy seconded. Unanimous approval.

IT Upgrade

Still waiting for FRCOG estimate to compare with Northeast IT. \$15,000 estimate. DLTA Grant, if available in spring, may cover the cost. The town is vulnerable as it stands. The Northeast IT Proposal is confusing and the town will be requesting a more streamlined comparison sheet to give us more concise information.

Trash Compactor

We have a \$7,500 grant for a cardboard compactor. Brian, in the past, had mentioned looking into purchasing a used one. Is there a time frame on this? **Ned** to contact Jan Ameen.

MLP Manager

Jan to check on if the compensation for the MLP manager will need a line on Article 3.

Special projects

Voted last year to appropriate \$15,000 for Special Projects bringing the balance to \$18,000 in the account. It is to be spent on moisture mitigation in Sawyer Hall, cement stairs repair and new exterior doors. Why hasn't this money been spent? Discussed not funding in FY21 budget.

Preschool

Originally created to attract kids to Heath School, then for extended hours program. Need to see how Hawlemont is paid (end of year?) and the affect the funding has on Hawlemont District. Need to learn more. **Ned** will ask Budge.

18 Jacobs Rd

Barring any large unforeseen expense, there may be as much as \$36,000 (not including parking lot repair) left in the account. The insurance adjuster had previously said that the cracked pavement could be a liability issue. The assessment of the property has increased by \$1.5M. It is difficult to project an operating expense for the property when we do not know its future use. Other questions include: is a change of occupancy permit from school to municipal building needed? If so, will we need a sprinkler system? The cost of a generator is another expense. **Jan** will email Hilma to see when we will receive the town accountant's report.

Utilities – Muddy River appeal

Ned will find out from Robyn what is going on and if the utilities appealed the mediated resolution.

Jan made a motion to adjourn, Ken seconded. Unanimous vote to adjourn at 8:35.

Respectfully submitted, Jan Carr