Minutes of the Heath Finance Committee
July 15, 2026 at 5:30 pm
Jacobs Road Municipal Building

Present: Dena Briggs (Chair), Wendy Whalen, and Ned Wolf

Absent: Alice Wozniak, Bob McGahan

Dena called the meeting to order at 5:30.

Members read the minutes of the May 21 FinCom meeting. Wendy moved that the minutes be approved as written. Dena seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Obligation for Injured Firefighter

Members discussed a request for $3000 from the Reserve Fund for continued aid in FY 27 for an injured firefighter.

Action Taken *Ned moved to transfer $3000 from the Reserve Fund* 01-132-5000-00000 *to the Fire Department Expense Account. Wendy seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.*

FY 26 Year End Budget Transfers

Members discussed the transfers requested by the Select Board.

Action Taken *Wendy moved to transfer from:*

01-151-5000-00000	Legal Fees	$15,730.92
01-422-5005-00000	Highway Dept. Materials	55,029.62
01-914-5000-00000	Health Insurance	3,199.58
01-132-5000-00000	Reserve Fund	2,980.00
01-522-5001-00000	Town Nurse's Expense	3,020.00
01-146-5004-00000	Tax Takings/Liens	3,000.00
Total From		**82,960.12**
Transfer To:		

01-135-5013-00000	Accountant's Support and Expense	$ 3,622.20
01-145-5002-00000	Treasurer's Expense	1,467.30
01-423-5010-00000	Winter Salt/Sand	62,133.01
01-430-5000-00000	FCSWMD Assessment/ Tipping	517.48
01-752-5000-00000	Int. Temp. Loans/Rev. Anti	2,531.25
01-916-5000-00000	FICA/Medicare Empl. Match	12,688.88
Total To:		**82,960.12**

as requested by the Select Board. Dena seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Dena will inform Mia of the 2 above votes.

Review of Broadband Contracts

Members discussed the contracts WGE-WCF-WW ISPNO Agreement and WW Service Agreement.

Questions for the MLB include the following:

1. Does Wired West get audited and if so how often? And what is the total cost and Heath's portion?
2. Who is the insurance company for our broadband system? And its annual cost? [As a municipality, we get a group insurance rate so is this company better?]
3. What is the monthly cost of the phone through Wired West? And the Internet? What is the difference if we contracted with WGE?
4. Do we have a contracted price with WW and if so for how many years?
5. Did we have Town Counsel check out the contract before signing?
6. How much of my monthly payment of $101.18 (for certain subscribers) goes to WW?
7. Why is contracting with WW better than working directly with WG&G?
8. Why does Bailey deserve twice as much salary as that received by persons doing comparable work in other towns?
9. Why is the amount of excess revenue that the town receives decreasing?

Other concerns relate to the need for more explanation with specifics in the WW Service Agreement.

Examples are as follows:

On p. 1 “Whereas WW was established for the benefit of its members in 2011” needs more explanation.

“Whereas WW seeks to reduce administrative burden, cost, and risk to member MLPs.” How?

In the 4th “Whereas” on p. 1, what does ‘support services’ refer to?

In the 5th “Whereas” more explanation of ‘subcontractors’ is needed.

Under Definitions on p. 2, how do we see ‘the Bylaws of WW’?

More explanation is needed of “leasing Dark Fiber.”

Why is the contract for so long a period as 10 years without a break clause? Did we get a term discount? What do we get out of this contract?

Under Services there are no specifics of how many subcontractors there are.

In section 3.2.3 more clarity is needed as to how the payment of invoices affects the town’s costs.

Under Maintenance what’s to keep a maintenance schedule from being shifted from monthly to weekly accompanied by “The cost of maintenance is going up” ?

<u>Date of Next Meeting</u>

There was agreement to await the MLB’s response during their August 13 meeting to the FinCom’s questions. One possibility is to schedule a joint meeting sometime in September.

Wendy moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:40. Dena seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted, Ned Wolf