

Approved: 12/13/22

# TOWN OF WINCHENDON

WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK  
RCUD DEC 15 2022 AM 11:50



## Finance Committee

Telephone (978)-297-5419

### Regular Meeting/Public Hearing Finance Committee Minutes October 11, 2022 6:30PM Town Hall 2nd Floor Auditorium

---

**Present:** Chairman Thomas J. Kane Jr., Dr. Maureen Ward, Charles C. Corts, Doug Delay,  
Robert O'Keefe  
**Absent:** Adrian Guerrero, Phil Levine

---

#### List of Documents Presented at Meeting:

- October 11, 2022 Meeting Agenda
  - September 13, 2022 & September 27, 2022 Minutes
  - YTD Report
- 

**6:30PM:** Chairman Thomas J. Kane Jr. called the Finance Committee meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** September 13, 2022 & September 27, 2022

Dr. Ward motioned to approve the September 13, 2022 minutes, 2nd by C. Corts.  
**Corts (Y) Delay (Y) O'Keefe (A) Ward (Y) Kane (A) 3-0-2 Abstentions**

Dr. Ward motioned to approve the September 27, 2022 minutes, 2nd by C. Corts.  
**Corts (Y) Delay (Y) O'Keefe (A) Ward (Y) Kane (Y) 4-0-1 Abstentions**

**YTD Reports:** T. Kane stated he plans on meeting with Mr. King to discuss the large amount of money encumbered on the YTD report.

D. Delay was concerned with the amount of overtime the fire department has paid. Dr. Ward added the employees who have been out are now back to work, so the amount of overtime should decrease. T. Kane stated he and Dr. Ward met with Chief Smith last week to discuss the overtime issue. Dr. Ward stated one of the main problems with the overtime and staffing is the struggle to get part-time/per diem fire fighters, so a lot of the full time employees have been working overtime to cover the necessary shifts.

**Finance Committee Goals Discussion:** T. Kane reviewed the three draft goals for the Finance Committee. To increase the monitoring of the towns fiscal issues and actions, add a standing agenda item for updates on fiscal initiatives. Too often initiatives generated by votes at town meeting are not revisited periodically and sometimes fall off the radar. Develop a five year projection of increased fixed budget costs to better understand their impact on the overall budget. Dr. Ward questioned why they had to be voted on every year, and why they weren't just in the budget. The last goal was to advocate for tri-board discussions and explore strategies, including regionalization, to address the challenges that the scarcity of qualified candidates for key town government positions. The members discussed the concern with having several vacant positions right now including; a business manager, town manager secretary, assistant treasurer, and the town accountant will be retiring next month. Dr. Ward wanted to add a fourth goal to have a better understanding on the solar revenue.

**Special Town Meeting Report:** T. Kane stated his understanding two weeks ago was the free cash would not be certified or only partially certified in time for the town meeting due to a lot of grant money needing to be drawn down. From this report, it looks as if that scenario has changed, as the general fund is a lot higher than originally expected, at about 1.9 million. In the warrant, it was figured to be around \$550,000 in free cash, with about \$750,000+ this past year already in the free cash account. Those figures would add up to about \$1.3 in free cash available for FY23 instead of having to wait for next years free cash to be certified. T. Kane needed to look into the figures more to determine how the \$1.9 figure was calculated. He planned on focusing the town meeting report on free cash, the stabilization fund, and OPEB.

**ATFC Conference:** November 5th, 2022 in Sharon, MA.

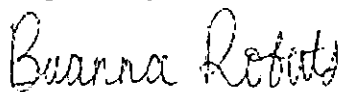
**Member Comments:** Dr. Ward mentioned the next meeting is November 8th, which is election day, so she will not be present. T. Kane stated it might be better to reschedule to a different day. He would check the schedule with Linda and proceed from there.

**Public Input:** None.

**7:35PM-** Dr. Ward motioned to adjourn, 2nd by C. Corts  
**Corts (Y) Delay (Y) O'Keefe (Y) Ward (Y) Kane (Y) 5-0**

**The Finance Committee adjourned at 7:35PM**

Respectfully submitted:



Brianna Roberts, Finance Committee Recording Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas Kane, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Maureen Ward, Vice-Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Charles C. Corts

\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas Delay

\_\_\_\_\_  
Adrian Guerrero

\_\_\_\_\_  
Philip Levine

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert O'Keefe