

MEETING MINUTES-WEST NEWBURY  
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date & Time: Tuesday September 24th, 2019 7pm

Location : 1910 Building 1st Floor Hearing Room

Attendees: Gary L. Roberts Jr., Chairman, Forbes Durey, Nathan Kelly, Brad Beaudoin, Angus Jennings, Jim Sperelakis, Jessica Knezek

AGENDA

1. Call to Order.  
2. Public Comment.  
None.

3. Late File Items.  
None.

4. Approval of Minutes.  
Minutes from 9/10/19 approved 6:0

5. Review Articles for the Special Town Meeting.

Article #8- CPC request for ~\$360,000 for expenses related to renovation of kitchens and bathrooms of 1-6 Boynton Court. Tracy Watson, exec director of West Newbury Housing Authority notes that they are applying for a grant from the state, hoping for a 1\$/1\$ match. Forbes asked why this grant wasn't sought at the annual town meeting. Watson states that the grant became available in 4/2019. Watson also notes that this is a rolling grant, so the earlier applications are received the better chance of receiving funds. The project is expected to be completed in 2022-2023 if approved. CPC voting to approve this article.

Roberts recused with Forbes leading discussion.

Vote 4:1:1 approve, Beaudoin dissenting, Roberts abstains, sunset FY2024

DPW - four articles proposed; #4-7

Article #4, High hazard tree removal - \$50,000. Wayne Amaral present. Amaral performed an assessment of the Town's trees and created a list of high hazard trees that he feels should be removed.

Vote: 6:0 approved, sunset FY2020

Article #5, \$9,500 for salter unit to be placed on DPW trucks to allow for smaller salting applications.

Vote 6:0 approved, sunset FY2020

Article #6, \$5,000 for inline dehumidifiers in the Town Library

Vote 6:0 approved, sunset FY2020

Article #7, \$2,600 for to offset expenses related to renovation of the library to improve air quality of the library.

Vote 6:0 approved, sunset FY2020

Dept. of Health, Bob Janes present, Paul Sevigny.

Article #2, \$11,500 to fund EPA mandated testing of the Steele Landfill. Monitoring of gas vents has been increased to 12x per year.

Vote 6:0 approved, Sunset FY2022

Article #3 \$66,000 to fund methane gas migration trench project as mandated by the EPA following detection of elevated levels of methane from the Steele Landfill.

Vote 6:0 approved, Sunset FY2022

6. Discuss Bicentennial Committee remaining fund balance. There are roughly \$30,000 remaining from funds set aside for the Town's bicentennial celebration. The Bicentennial committee would like to use these funds to erect a memorial for the Town's bicentennial. Roberts notes that excess funds from articles are supposed to be returned to the community. Knezek notes that there was no mention of a memorial project in the original article request. Kelly notes that there was no mention of this project in the Bicentennial Committee until 6/2019 and it was never listed as an official agenda item.

7. Town Manager updates.

8. Communications.

Next meeting is 10/8/19. The joint meeting with the selectmen will be moved until after 10/8/19.