



Town of Wilmington

Finance Committee
121 Glen Road Wilmington, 01887

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TOWN OF WILMINGTON, MA

Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 3, 2022

Finance Committee Chairman, John F. Doherty III, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Members present via video conferencing on ZOOM were Theresa M. Manganelli, Vice Chairman; Marianne Gallezzo, Secretary; Jonathan Dugas, Scott Neville, David Tamang, Joseph Lavino and Andrew Lavigne. Leigh Martinson was absent.

To begin the meeting Mr. Doherty read a statement regarding Open Meeting Law and public access to the meeting via technological means, then took a verbal roll call of the attendees.

Also Present: Jeffrey Hull, Town Manager; Susan Inman, Assistant Town Manager; Bryan Perry, Finance Director

WILDWOOD SCHOOL COMMITTEE UPDATE

PRESENT IN INTEREST: Marianne Gallezzo, Finance Committee Secretary and Wildwood Building Committee Member

We are looking to having a Special Town meeting on March 8th at the Shriners Auditorium. The town seeking \$1.2 million dollars for a feasibility study. They will explore replacing the Wildwood or consolidating the schools. They have had some problems there, today it is closed. The public buildings department has discovered some loose floor tiles. The tiles have some encapsulated asbestos in them. They need to follow special guidelines to replace the tiles. The school will be closed for a couple of days. Mr. Doherty asks how long will the study take? Ms. Gallezzo answers that she is not sure the timeline. There is some discussion about funding and the MSBA program.

VETERANS' SERVICES

PRESENT IN INTEREST: Louis Cimaglia IV, Director of Veterans' Services

The FY2023 budget for Veterans services. My budget has gone down since last year. The program is run by the Massachusetts general law, chapter 115. The town of Wilmington gets reimbursed to 75% of those funds. It has consistently gone down over the years and that is due to the staff here in the office making sure that everyone we help has another source of income. In contractual services, we have a computer system we use to process claims and there is also some training and conferences in this category. We ran a lot of programs this year. Memorial Day and Veterans Day services. We decorated graves and rededicated the library. We had some 100-year birthdays, assisted with the moving wall and the 911 ceremonies. We had our first veterans services cookout. The department gave out Thanksgiving baskets, Christmas gifts and food baskets throughout the year. We have some Eagle Scouts in town that work with the Veterans services department. They have several projects that we have going on through the town, KIA on the common, WWII Veteran Square in town, a flagpole project, and an Agent Orange monument.

Chair asks if there are any questions for Mr. Cimaglia.

Mr. Tamang asks is the amount budgets sufficient to support the Veterans Services department? Mr. Cimaglia responds yes, as of right now it is. Mr. Tamang ask the numbers seemed to fluctuate between 21-23 is there a projected number you look at to determine the funding? Mr. Cimaglia responds that

there are a set number of cases that we have. This number went down in 2021. Unfortunately, we buried a lot of Veterans in 2022 and the program pays for Veterans funerals.

Chair asks if there are any further questions.

ELDERLY SERVICES

PRESENT IN INTEREST: Terri Marciello, Director of Elderly Services

Right now, with the town census from 2020 the 60 & over population is 5,609. In a 2 years' time that population went up 11.7%. This population is growing rapidly. The Department of Elderly Services includes the senior center. With the pandemic we did have to close some of the programming, but the department as a whole has been continuously opened. Ms. Marciello mentions some of the activities and events the senior center has throughout the year including a Celebration of Life event.

Budget for Elderly Services. For home delivered meals we served 15,594 meals last year. We have about 70-72 people we deliver meals to Monday through Friday. There was a decline in 2021 because we had staff deliver meals due to Covid. For Miscellaneous Contractual Services helps us with our grab and go meal program. We have had local companies also help us with this program. Transportation has increased again. For 2021 the van travelled 14,635 miles, 1,112 medical/grocery/medical and other trips for the towns seniors. For vaccines, and along with the board of health we helped register 362 people to get their 1st, 2nd, and booster vaccines. We help with fuel assistance, applications, and renewals. We also had devised a way for some seniors to participate in the tax work off program. The department helps to assist with SNAP and protective services for the towns seniors. We also used a tent to help us since we could not do a lot of classes/programs inside.

Mr. Doherty asks if you are still getting grants from Lahey and other sources? Ms. Marciello replies yes. The tent we rented last year; the Executive Office of Elder Affairs Grant paid for this. We are hoping to do this again this year with us paying for some of this along with the Elders Affairs Office, formula grant. This grant also pays for a portion of one of the case workers, some of our exercise programs and monthly birthday cards. The Mass Council on Aging also helps to enhance programs we offer. We also saw that Winchester Hospital had some grant programs. We wrote up a grant for a 'Meals and More' Program. We got \$5,000 initially to make sure that people can get fresh fruits and vegetables. We have been working with Luccis to provide produce 2x a month to Deming Way and to our home delivered meals recipients. It went so well, and we have received a grant for another \$3,000 to continue for another year.

Chair asks if there are any questions for Ms. Marciello.

Mr. Neville asks about the Sand bucket program. Have you had many people reach out to you? Ms. Marciello responds yes. We had over 100 calls and the Wilmington Fire Department helped us to deliver them to residents. Ms. Gallezzo asks are you still shoveling with the kids from the high school? Ms. Marciello says yes, they have and discusses the students in town helping to ramp this up again. She also goes on to discuss a 'letters of love' program that some students are involved in. Where they send letters and pictures, they make to the seniors in town during this tough isolation period with Covid.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Finance Committee reviewed the Minutes from January 27, 2022. A motion was made by Mr. Lavine, seconded by Ms. Manganelli, and by the affirmative roll call vote of all it was:

VOTED: To approve the minutes from January 27, 2022.

OTHER BUSINESS


Chair mentions an article forwarded earlier to read up on regarding OPEB.

At the conclusion of the discussion, there being no further business to come before the Committee, a motion was made by Ms. Manganelli and seconded by Mr. Lavine, it was unanimously and by roll call:

VOTED: That the Finance Committee adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm

Respectfully Submitted,



Jennifer Swanson
Recording Secretary