

Budget and Finance Committee

8/17/23 6:00 PM

Meeting Post: <https://www.cityofnewburyport.com/budget-finance/events/339406>

Roll:

B/F: Zeid, Wright

Other Members: McCauley

Staff: Manning

Agenda: (green = coming out of cmte, pink = coming out of cmte amended, yellow = staying in cmte)

Agenda:

- **TRAN00164_08_14_2023 DPS: Cemetery Receipts Reserved for Approp. \$26,076.62 to (B&F) Vehicle/Equipment Replacement \$26,076.62**
 - 2-5k of revenue is what the fund takes in
 - Last transfer was April 2017 which 0'd it
 - Taken 6 years to get to this level
 - Last fiscal year was \$3,550, 13 transactions
 - Burials and digging of graves and so forth
 - General fund budget already had 60k
 - Lease to purchase agreements are being referred to are the loader and wing plow. Purchased a year ago, this is payment of 2 of 3. That is \$50k
 - Balance will then be \$10k and then add to this to buy the mower
 - Each mower is about \$18k
 - MW – DPS vs Parks inventory? Was there any overlap
 - EM – They have looked at that but this is equipment that is being taken out of service and the stuff already failed
 - EM – Usually use this for equipment
 - SZ – Do mowers get used at schools
 - EM – They are part of City wide mowing program
 - Public Comment – Jane Snow 9 Coffin St.
 - Sale of lots is supposed to go towards trust so you can accumulate funds. Well some percentage. Need to replenish this money.
 - EM – Only fees that go into this are one-off fee for a burial, cremations, etc.
 - EM – This is for not for the funds for sale of lots. That goes under different statute.
 - Public Comment: Jane Snow – concern that there aren't really any spots left to sell so what do you do?
 - **Motion to approve MW/SZ – 2-0 (1 absent)**
- **ORDR00481_08_14_2023 Milliman Gift Acceptance**
 - This is a gift, it is not cash
 - Spouse of employee works there

- They have a bunch of furniture they were trying to get rid of because of office location switch
- Survey asked department heads if they could use anything
- Some depts replied and this is the list of what they can use (we are not accepting all)
- **Motion approve MW/SZ – 2-0 (1 absent)**

- **ORDR00483_08_14_2023 Approval to Pay Prior Year Bills**

- Can pay under state law
- After statutory deadline or because department ran out of the money
- The only one that met the “ran out of money” was the DPS Sewer Solar
- They ran out of money in the category. If they had the bill it would have been a transfer at that time
- This is for the Rabbit Rd Salisbury/Solar credits. This is the City paying the company which then gives us credits.
- We buy electricity from them. Basically we buy \$1 for \$.90 so we get the \$.10
- More recent agreements are more like 15-20%
- We may solar investment and then we get credits on National Grid Bill
- MW – Why wouldn’t we have budgeted the right amount if it is a set contract
- EM – Contract is set but the amounts are variable based on how much is generated.
- SZ - are we creating the next deficit
- EM – possibly, we may need another transfer
- SZ – for sewer what did we budget for this line for FY24
- EM – FY23 410k
- SZ – this is about 10%, to put it in perspective
- EM – Hopefully we can see the trend midyear
- SZ – I would think we could think about refill with retained
- EM – Yes but frozen now
- **Motion to approve MW/SZ – 2-0 (1 absent)**

- **TRAN165_08_14_2023_25k_ARPA_Hale_St**

- Committee on ARPA?
- AL - Grant due at end of September, ahead of game
- AL - This would show the match
- AL - Do we have a chance? It’s a federal grant
- AL – it will be competitive
- AL – if unsuccessful then will do a transfer for the balance
- JM – Disappointed about \$25k, we passed unanimously \$484k. Even with the grant we could reduce.
- JM – Do think this is important for W5/6. Hale St was closed, there was some things to happen in the street that continues to implode.
- JM – 3 quotes all talked about doing permitting that can be used anyways
- JM – The quotes are for 30% design
- JM – Will continue to ask to supplement to get to the \$125k instead of just the match
- EM – They won’t reimburse for grant signed from before, guidelines for the grant
- MW – Would like to get it done, it’s \$100k delta
- MW – The sooner the better
- JM – Can we use this for a longer period time

- **Motion to approve MW/SZ – 2-0 (1 absent)**

Medium Priority:

- **ORDR00472_06_26_2023 Streets Sidewalks Loan Order \$6,000,000 (COTW)**
 - Reiterate last 3 year accounting request SZ
 - PW/S is waiting for updated plans
 - End of first week of September to provide plan

Not Planning to Discuss:

- **ODNC00129_11_01_2022 Defining Conflict Rule for Dept. Heads (COTW)**
- **ORDR00336_03_28_2022 ARPA Amesbury 250K (COTW)**
- **TRAN00153_05_08_2023 Mayor: Multiple \$3,483,773 to Multiple \$3,483,773 revised 6/15/2023 Atkinson Common Request only all other matters adjudicated)**
 - Site-walk end of the month
 - Before ConCom and PB both continued this week
 - Site-walk open to the boards

Public Comment:

See above

Adjourn:

MW/SZ 7:09 pm (2-0)

Recording:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/LU3xGLF-X0FSbbr2DBuhIEI2WqL12kRzXfs5ZLGQnbBteGG_GvtrHA|pa0gDSOZI.0YYPY65TSU-zARaf