Chairman Erich Marriott called the meeting to order at 7:02p.m. with Pat Donovan, James Stedronsky, Patricia Dauten, Elliot Fuessenich, Sam Olmstead (Alt.) and Matthew Tobin (Alt.) present. Richard Quay absent
Also Present: Denise Raap. Jeff Zullo (Remote) and Amaechi Obi and Fran Carpentier (Town Treasurer), Chris Leone and Raz Alexe

**Chair Appointed Matt Tobin as regular member as Richard Quay absent**

**Approve Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting on February 14, 2022**

**Motion:** Elliot moved to approve the minutes for the February 14th meeting. Jim Stedronsky seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None

**School Regionalization Update**
Friday there was meeting with commission and next step is to get proposal to state BoE. No mention of the weighted voting BoE proposal.

**ARPA Funds Disbursement Update**
Elliot has not had any meeting. Denise has mentioned there are about 4 applications. Discussion on Northfield Firehouse $225,000 receipt of funds and $50,000 from fundraising and town provided rest for renovations.

**Capital Improvements Presentation**
Fran presented the detailed Capital Budget for 2022/2023. $5,486,143 was proposed as total cost and after grant and ARPA fund, $2,166,561 was stated as amount of bonding required for the plan.

Raz detailed the timeline for materials for a number of projects and that delays in materials presents challenges on timeline.

Fran reported about the decline in debt service drops in 2024 forward as school debt rolls off the operating budget.

Motion made by Eliot to approve the $5,486,143 total amount for capital costs and $2,166,561. Patty Dauten seconded seconded. Roll call vote, all voted in favor and motion passed.

**Operating Budget**
Denise walked through the detail of the presented 2022/2023 budget and key drivers for budget increases for 2022/2023. Total budget presented was a 4.84% increase to $8,851,129 from $8,442,575 in 2021/2022. Expected mill rate decrease would be .6. Hiring a full time assessors clerk, part time now and now a part time and full time clerk that represents a $93,386. Cyber security, $5,600 increase. Back in PT recycling center employee. Fire
Marshall FT, $76,000. PT fire marshall assistant. There was discussion regarding the FT fire marshall position. Additional expense of public works assistant was added to budget to ultimately help fill empty position. Raz detailed need for added headcount to help take over the capital projects oversight.

Denise explained additional changes to budget for 5 hours for social services coordinator. Patrol for $10,000 to OT to focus on speed enforcement. Park and rec adding assistant for 20 hours for $23,650. Election worker pay increase $2,100. $100,000 additional for dead tree removal.

Discussion was made for utilizing funds in capital funds account to target tree removal.

Jim brought up discussion for increasing pay for First Selectman to at lease match finance directors pay of $105,000. Jim made a motion to recommend to Board of Selectman increase pay. Matt Tobin seconded motion. Jeff mentioned that it would be inappropriate to recommend change to line item that was not discussed. Jim withdrew his motion for his recommendation and Matt withdrew his second.

The decision was made to present a transfer request for the next meeting to allocate $195,000 from capital fund to operating budget for tree removal. Elliot made a motion to remove the $105,000 from the operating budget and Jim Stedronsky seconded. Raz mentioned that it is imperative to have tree removal. Elliot withdrew motion to remove the tree budget line item and Jim withdrew his second.

Finance Director’s Monthly Reports
Amaechi Obi spoke about the February Expenditures and Revenue reports. There was discussion about the reports.

Motion: Matt made motion to accept the report and Elliot seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

New Business

a. Financial Transfers: There were no transfers.
b. Correspondence: None.
c. Payment of Bills: none
d. Future Agenda Items: March 28th special meeting to review BoE budget. April meeting will have the BoS operating budget.

Adjournment

Motion: Jim motioned to adjourn, Elliot seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:59.

Respectfully submitted,

Erich Marriott
Chair