

**Town of Oak Bluffs Finance and Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday, February 17, 2022, 5:00 pm**  
**Via Zoom Conference**

Present: Chair –**Bob Gaffey, Dion Alley, Sherry Countryman, Bernie Crossland, Maura McGroarty, Mike Taus, Walter Vail, Bill Vrooman, Richard Weiss.**

Absent:

Others: Deborah Potter - Town Administrator / Accountant. Debra Alley - Recorder.

**5:01pm** The Oak Bluffs Finance and Advisory Committee came to order.

Review minutes from January February 3, 2022, meeting. Mr. Vail moved the minutes be approved seconded by Mr. Weiss.

Crossland -Aye, Weiss - Aye, Taus - Aye, Alley - Aye, Countryman -Aye, McGroarty - Aye, Vail - Aye, Gaffey - Aye. (**8 - Aye**)

**Review and Discuss Capital Committee Recommendations**

Questions were asked around the East Chop Bluffs; you must have the borrowing authorization in place before you can apply for the grants. The entire request is \$6.9 million, after grants received the share for the Town is \$2,300,820. The entire cost of the project is almost \$19 - \$20 million.

Query about why there is a variance in the Electric Vehicles. Capital committee approved \$17,500, since the committee met, price has increase to \$25,400 due in part to supply chain issues.

The Jetty Construction is to replace/repair the existing jetty, it does not include the leg as this section ran into permitting delays. The proposed design will allow to have the addition added at a later stage.

**5:33 pm** Select Person Ruley joined the meeting

Highway department requests were queried – woodchipper is used up at the landfill to mulch yard debris, fallen trees, Christmas Trees etc. The two vehicles are ranked 1 and 2, they have been priced out by the department. The department uses these vehicles for other purposes such as plowing; therefore, they need bigger/heavier vehicles.

Library requested outdoor pickup lockers for patrons to collect books and resources. This was ranked a two due to location of the lockers; this area is very exposed to the weather.

Queries about the seagrass and the location of this planting. Questions about the need for Jet ski and Rescue Board – where it will be kept during the season, where will the trailer be located. Is this equipment really needed?

Police have withdrawn their request for Sergeant’s vehicle, firearms request, and low speed vehicle request. The Police department has requested instead the \$19,200 from free cash to take care of some interior work at the station as it relates to creating separate gender spaces.

The School boiler replacement is not optional; questions were asked about the type of fuel and use of the boiler – as an example does it provide hot water?

**6:05 pm** Bill Vrooman joined the meeting

Wastewater was discussed in detail. TWMP/CWMP implementation request of \$26,000,000. More discussion and detail needed for this to become a warrant article. If this article does go in as a warrant article it is going to

have to be debt excluded. The wastewater treatment plant is failing and is going to need attention soon. This \$26,000,000 is not the full cost required by Wastewater; it is estimated to be over \$100 million by the end of this capital program.

### **Review and discuss Debt Schedule**

Questions asked as to why Streetscape costs are not on the capital or the debt schedule. It was explained that money has been authorized for being borrowed, the Town is going to get a band, which is a bond anticipation note. After the project is completed, it will be put out to bond that will be after January of 2023. It will go on the debt schedule once it is actually bonded.

There are items on the Capital Committee that are cyclical in nature and need doing every couple of years – such as the Kennebec Bathrooms. Other items which appear on the Capital are leases.

### **MVRHS Field Project**

A Planning Board member has approached the Finance Committee to provide financial guidance on any action regarding the special permit in front of the Planning Board under 8.2 of the zoning bylaws regarding the potential cost if the fields are approved and installed? Both short- and long-term costs.

Planning Board pages 92 – 92 bylaws. Potential Fiscal impact to the Town not addressed by the MVC.

Mr. Vail is going to draft a document / letter and present it back to the Finance Committee for review and presentation to the Planning Board at a future date.

**6:40 pm** Mike Taus left the meeting

### **FY23 Budget and Warrant Articles**

The committee will meet next Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> to vote on the budget and warrant articles.

### **Other Business**

**Adjourn:** 7:10 Mr. Vrooman motioned to adjourn the Finance and Advisory Committee Meeting Seconded by Mr. Vail.

Weiss - Aye, Countryman -Aye, Vail – Aye, Vrooman – Aye, Alley – Aye, McGroarty – Aye, Gaffey – Aye, Crossland - Aye. **(8 – Aye)**

### **Meetings/Events:**

Oak Bluffs Finance Committee – 5:00 PM Thursday, February 24, 2022

### **Documents on file**

Updated FY23 Draft Budget

FY23 Warrant Articles

Debt Schedule

*Respectfully submitted*

*Debra Alley, Office Administrator*