



## CHESTER FINANCE COMMITTEE CHESTER TOWN HALL Meeting Minutes

17 February 2024

Members Present: Sister Judith Dalesandro                      Members Absent: none  
Joe Ryan  
Jonathan Glionna (remote)  
Andy Myers  
Bob Daley

Others present:            Brian Forgue  
Don Humason

Meeting called to order by Chair Andy Myers @ 1002am

### Agenda item #1

Re-organization of Fin Con/Finance Committee  
Motion to Elect Andy Myers Chair through FY'25  
Motion to approve by Ryan Seconded by Dalesandro  
Vote = 5 Yes 0 No

Chair Myers spoke of the need for a Fin Com leadership succession plan, as he would like to step down from this role after FY'25. He suggested creating a Vice Chair to transition to the future. Both Joe Ryan & Jonathan were nominated & declined, at this time.  
No Vote was taken

### Agenda item #2 New Business

Discussion/review of FY'25 Budget  
Andy led review of the preliminary Budget  
TA Humason will continue capturing Dept requests for Fin Com  
Robust discussion of GRSD Budget occurred, supported with information from Brian Forgue  
At one point the topic of Grants was introduced, Daley spoke to the lack of Grant Writing, leading to multiple missed opportunities, not only for the Water Dept & suggested discussion of a potentially shared Grant Writer position. He suggested meeting with Blandfords Fin Com as we have done in the past to learn their thoughts on the FY'25 Budget as well as reviewing current & potential shared opportunities  
Sister Judith spoke of the need for succession continuity in the Assessor Dept with the impending retirement of Assessor LaFreniere. Myers pointed out funds to support Assessor Bennett's succession, are in the Budget

She also noted the proposed increase in COA Budget

TA Humason updated Fin Com on the status of the recent Town Property revaluation by CBIZ

He spoke of the Old Chester Elem School feasibility study Grant Admin by HCDC

Myers suggested reducing Insurance costs for the School.

Humason responded to Main Street bridge status... In the MassDOT pipeline, as is the Chester/Blandford Road bridge

Discussion of possible acquiring by the Town of 'Corner Church' as a potential future home for COA. This could allow for expansion of the PD in Town Hall

Agenda item #3

Next Meeting

Saturday 2 MAR in COA 9-3 with Dept Heads

Motion to Adjourn

Motion by Daley Seconded by Glionna

Vote = 5 Yes No

Meeting Adjourned 1135am

Approved

J. L. Mh

3/2/24