

## Chester Finance Committee Meeting

2/20/25 COA Room

In attendance: Sr. Judith Dalesandro, Florence Bolduc, Brian Fogue, Don Humason, Craig Gauthier and Mary Ann Pease, Joe Ryan, Andy Sutton and Terry Donovan

Absent: Bob Daley

#1) Brian informed the FC that Andy Myers was stepping down immediately.

#2) Mary Ann asked on behalf of the COA to have the \$6,000.00 that was earmarked for a new COA floor be put back in general funds. There won't be a new floor going in in the foreseeable future. Don thinks it has to be an article on the upcoming special town meeting warrant to put it back into the general fund.

#3) There will also be an article on the upcoming STM warrant to take \$7,000 out of the Town Council account and pay outstanding Town Hall Maintenance and Expense Bills.

#4) PVPC is putting together an RFP for the old grammar school. Andy Sutton will keep us updated.

#5) Went through the updated spread sheet that Brian handed out with updated department #'s. Those that haven't submitted he did estimates based on last year.

BOS Salaries increased by 3%

\$2,000 a month for Software support including Cyber Security

#6) Mary Ann suggest changing names on capital expenditure accounts to not be so specific, maybe a vehicle replacement stabilization account.

7) Suta and Medicare will be going down, while country retirement is going up. Not sure who had these updated numbers, Don or Brian? Some suggestions regarding rising health insurance were self-insure, find another health care provider. Brian suggested taking money from Stabilization fund to cover increase in health insurance.

8) Upcoming student populations. Possible 12 Voc Students at \$20,500 per student cost could change. Gateway budget up 3.55 % still a work in progress. This is due to fluctuation in federal and state government.

9) Sr. Judith asked about a 2 ½ override.

10) Mary Ann suggested adding line items to budget work sheet when Highway helps cemetery and water dept, so salaries can be paid out of these accounts instead of highway salary.

#11) Flo mentioned the fire department is looking into stipends for firefighters that meet certain criteria.

#12) Mary Ann asked to have the water department shown on the worksheet. Even though they are an enterprise fund they still get money from taxes.

#13) A signup sheet will be sent around to have departments request blocks of time to review budgets.

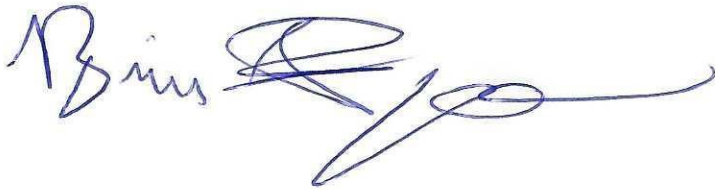
Next Meeting to be held 2/27/25 @ 5:30 in COA

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Pease

Secretary

Approved on 2/27

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian R. Pease". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "B" and a long, sweeping underline.