

Chester Finance Committee Meeting

2/5/2026 COA room

In Attendance: Sr.Judith Dalesandro, Florence Bolduc, Mary Ann Pease, Bob Daley, Nick Chiusano and John Williams

Absent: JoeRyan

Guests: Brian Forgue and Andrew Alward and Craig Gauthier

Meeting called to order by Flo at 5:30.

Prior meeting minutes reviewed and approved, signed by Flo who will get them to Town Clerk.

#1) Fire Department presentation by Nate Bolduc, Fire Chief. Detailed categorized presentation handed out by Fire Chief.

Much discussion regarding Generators at the 2 main fire stations and what can be done to replace them etc. Budget items or Capital purchase items. Discussed need to remove oil from tank at Bromley Rd headquarters and how to arrange to have it handled. Wheeler quoted a price of \$1,500 to remove it. It can then be used at main fire station. Nick Chiusano offered to help Nate pump it a little bit at a time to add to main station tank.

A new Fire Chief vehicle was discussed and how to pay for it.

Salary increase for Fire Chief slowly each year to bring him up to industry standards.

The 2 AED machines in town hall expired in 2024. Fire Department will be adding these to their budget along with the ones for fire stations.

#2) Andrew handed out Assessors and Accountant budget requests. Flo mentioned that a big increase we will be seeing is in software costs.

#2) Andrew stated the Town Hall Building account will not last till the end of the year due to some unexpected expenses. This issue is going to be addressed in Andrews' annual budget request, but in the meantime, monies need to be found to cover till the end of FY.

Flo made a motion to transfer \$12,000 from the FIN COM Reserve Fund to the TH Building Expense Account. All in Favor.

#3) Debt and Insurance, Andrew working on.

#4) Nick mentioned the BOH was working on the budget to include snow removal at the dump. Work in progress on how to handle.

#5) Discussion regarding new accountant and the hope for better handling of issues that in the past. Extremely difficult for FIN COM to get help.

Will begin meeting with Departments heads at next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15PM

Next Meeting 2/19/26 at 5:30 COA

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Pease

Mary Ann Pease 2/19/2026
5:35 PM