**Present:** Dave Richardson; Nancy Houghton; John Streeter; Bill Rescsanski; Albert St. Pierre; Bob Davis; Keith Weed; Rosie Smith-Hull; Gabe Bailey; Roger Thibodeau; Terry Spilsbury;

**Public Present:** Steve Neill

**Via Zoom:** Patty Chaffee

**Employees Present:** Sarah Davis - Secretary

Dave Richardson called the meeting to order at 6.30 pm, read the disclosure agreement concerning online meetings during Covid 19 and took a roll call vote of those attending the meeting both in the Community Room and online.

Dave Richardson called for a vote for officers for the current meeting season and asked for nominations for a Chairman. Roger Thibodeau nominated Nancy Houghton, seconded by Terry Spilsbury, Nancy Houghton declined the nomination. Rosie Smith-Hull nominated Gabe Bailey who declined the nomination, Dave Richardson nominated Terry Spilsbury who also declined. Nancy Houghton offered to take the position with assistance.

**Roll call vote:** All in favor with the exception of Nancy Houghton who abstained. Nancy Houghton was confirmed as Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Dave Richardson called for nominations for Vice Chairman, Gabe Bailey was nominated by Bob Davis, seconded by Nancy Houghton.

**Roll call vote:** All in favor with the exception of Gabe Bailey who abstained. Gabe Bailey was confirmed as Vice Chairman for the Finance Committee.

Bob Davis spoke about the committee working on the feasibility of the Ambulance Service and that the committee will have a decision for the Finance Committee by the time that the Ambulance Committee is due to present its budget. The presentation from the committee will be to the Finance Committee and the Select Board.

Terry Spilsbury spoke about looking ahead and identifying any anticipated capital outlays and one-time expenses. Patty Chaffee responded that these are as yet unknown items.

Nancy Houghton asked for confirmation of the full committee, Dave Richardson confirmed that the full committee is present. Nancy Houghton asked if the Select Board is aware of any proposed capital expenses. Albert St Pierre spoke about the water bond which will affect a large portion of town although the numbers are as yet unknown, he asked Patty Chaffee for an update on the water bond. The total project is $4.8 million with around $2 million in grants. The balance of $2.8 being will be borrowed, this will need to go on the bond for the full amount of $4.8 million. 60% of the vote is required to pass the bond. More information will be available from the Water Commissioners. This project is to connect the 2 water supplies, Charlestown and North Charlestown so that these can both be supplied from the same source. The full information should be available in September/ October, it is unknown if this will affect the water rate at this time, this will be confirmed once more details are known.

Nancy Houghton asked if the Select Board has asked the department heads for their budgets, it was confirmed by Albert St Pierre that this has not yet been done. Albert St Pierre confirmed that a $2 million Tax Anticipation Note was taken out in June, this has been paid back in full; this will need to be done again in the fall. Terry Spilsbury confirmed that $9,780 was paid for the TAN as opposed to the $7,000 that was budgeted. Albert St Pierre asked if the same amount will be required in the fall, Patty Chaffee confirmed that this will depend on cash flow at the time.

Roger Thibodeau asked if the town is struggling with tax payment. Patty Chaffee confirmed that 89% of the first issue tax bill had been collected as of July 1st.

Terry Spilsbury asked about the year 2 lease payment on the fire truck, it was confirmed that this is around $68 thousand. Keith Weed confirmed that the Highway Department will be looking for around $600 thousand for 2 trucks and a backhoe.

Albert St Pierre spoke about starting meetings earlier in the year and being able to begin the discussions earlier in the timeline, the full Covid effect is as yet unknown, he went on to speak about payments which have been made to Front Line workers that will be reimbursed by the state. The town of Charlestown took the decision to make payments to the those Front Line workers who were not included in the state payments to ensure that all those who worked during the height of the pandemic were reimbursed, this money was taken from funding in the budget which will not be used during this year for its original purpose.

Bob Davis asked for clarification on the local school tax and if the town is likely to see a discount for the buses and utilities which were not used during the pandemic. Albert St Pierre passed this to Bill Rescsanski as the liaison with the FMRSD School Board. Bill Rescsanski confirmed that he will look to have a meeting with Jim Fenn, CFO at the FMRSD to discuss this. Albert St Pierre suggested asking Scott Bushway to attend a Finance Committee meeting to answer questions, Nancy Houghton will reach out to Scott Bushway.

Bill Rescsanski suggested proposing a Zoom meeting for all the Select Boards of the FMRSD member towns to discuss Covid related costs. Albert St Pierre confirmed that the Select Board will discuss this, he further suggested asking about costs for aides; Dave Richardson suggested asking about internet connection costs and if any related expenses are being covered.

Nancy Houghton asked about the library and the drainage which has been paid for but has not been taken care of, there have been issues with water ingress. Albert St Pierre confirmed that the roof is being looked at as the source of the problem, quotations are being prepared. It is hoped that this can be covered with LCHIP funding, this is under discussion as the necessary fix will change the appearance of the building.

Dave Richardson asked about the cemetery and the repair work which was not completed in 2019, it would appear that nothing has been spent year to date, what is the status of this? There is nothing showing as encumbered funds in the 2020 budget. Albert St Pierre confirmed that this is currently being discussed and researched. Rosie Smith-Hull confirmed that the work will not be done at Forest Hill but could be done at Hope Hill. Rosie Smith-Hull will look into this with the trustees of the cemeteries.

Nancy Houghton asked for suggestions for the next meeting, it was agreed to meet Monday 14th September and from then on 2nd Monday of the month at 6.30 pm.

Nancy Houghton called for a motion to adjourn at 7.25, proposed by Bob Davis, seconded by Rosie Smith-Hull, all in favor, meeting adjourned.

Sarah Davis - Secretary