**MILFORD FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**MARCH 13, 2024**

PRESENT: Al Correia (Chairman), Andy Lizotte, Joyce Lavigne, David Levine, Chris Morin, Michael Nicholson, Vinny Valastro and Lauren Wilton

Members not present: Robert DeVita, Jerry Hiatt, Brant Hornberger, Carly Kearnan, Chuck Miklosovich, John Tennaro.

Also present: Zachary Taylor, Finance Director; Tom Brown, Town Accountant and Paul Abbondanza, Financial Analyst.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

David Levine moved to amend the 1-10-24 Minutes, seconded by Vinny Valastro, all in favor. Mike Nicholson moved to accept the 1-10-24 Minutes as amended, seconded by Vinny Valastro, all in favor.

Preliminary Budget Proposals:

114 - Moderator: 3% increase- $2868. Andy Lizotte moved to accept the Moderator’s budget proposal, seconded by Chris Morin, all in favor.

122 -Select Board: 32% decrease-$268,043. Vinny Valastro moved to accept the Select Board’s budget proposal, seconded by Andy Lizotte, all in favor.

131-Finance Committee: 2% increase-$40,468. Lauren Wilton moved to accept the Finance Committee’s budget proposal, seconded by Vinny Valastro, all in favor.

132-Reserve Fund: 0% increase/decrease-$125,000. Lauren Wilton moved to accept the Reserve Fund’s budget proposal, seconded by Andy Lizotte, all in favor.

135-Finance Director: 4% increase-$359,177. Chris Morin moved to accept the Finance Director’s budget proposal, seconded by Andy Lizotte, all in favor.

145-Treasurer: 8% increase-$294,099. Mike Nicholson moved to accept the Treasure’s budget proposal, seconded by Lauren Wilton, all in favor.

246-Tax Collector: 3% increase-$288,585; 147-Benefits: 6% increase-$160,368; 148-General Government: -3% decrease-$622.811; 151- Legal: 4% increase-$247,730; 152- Personnel: 3% increase-$7,025; 135- Accountant: 4% increase-$359.177. Chris Morin moved to accept the Tax Collector, Benefits, General Government, Legal, Personnel and Accountant budget proposals, seconded by Lauren Wilton, all in favor.

153-Human Resources: 6% increase-$142.696. Mike Nicholson moved to accept the Human Resources budget proposal, seconded by Vinny Valastro, 7 in favor, 1 opposed (Dave Levine).

155-IT: 21 % increase-$1,198,924. Mike Nicholson moved to accept the IT budget proposal, seconded by Vinny Valastro, all in favor.

158-Title Foreclosure: 33% decrease-$50,000. Mike Nicholson moved to accept the Title Foreclosure budget proposal, seconded by Lauren Wilton, all in favor.

186-Fair Housing Commission: 3% increase-$2682. Mike Nicholson moved to accept the Fair Housing Commission budget proposal, seconded by Vinny Valastro, all in favor.

192-Public Property: 5% increase-$1,100,449; 194-Other Insurance: 0% increase/decrease-$350,000; 195-Town Report: 8% increase-$5000. Chris Morin moved to accept the Public Property, Other Insurance and Town Report budget proposals, seconded by Lauren Wilton, all in favor.

244-Sealer of Weight Measures: 3% increase-$10,472; 291- Emergency Management: 0% increase/decrease-$3362; 292- Animal Control: 4.8 % increase-$145,807; 296- Water Department/Hydrants: 0%- increase/decrease; 299-Insect Control: 3% increase-$3911. Vinny Valastro moved to accept the Sealer of Weights Measures, Emergency Management, Animal Control, Water Department/Hydrants, and Insect Control budget proposals, seconded by Dave Levine, all in favor.

351-Norfolk Tri Cty: 24% increase-$510,000. Chris Morin moved to accept the Norfolk Tri Cty budget proposal, seconded by Mike Nicholson, all in favor.

424-Street Lights: 0% increase/decrease-$306,301; 425-On Street Parking: 1% increase- $73,350. Mike Nicholson moved to accept the Street Lights and On Street Parking budget proposals, seconded by Andy Lizotte, all in favor.

 495-Tree Department: 0% increase/decrease-$106,390. Mike Nicholson moved to accept the Tree Department budget proposal, seconded by Vinny Valastro, all in favor.

542-Youth Services: 5% increase-$266,907; 543-Veterans: 9% decrease-$370,034; 549- Commission on Disability: 0% increase/decrease-$1130. Lauren Wilton moved to accept the Youth Services, Veterans and Commission on Disability budget proposal, seconded by David Levine, all in favor.

691-Historical Commission: 0% increase/decrease-$2411; 710- Maturing Debt: 0% increase/decrease-$2,879,809: 751- Interest Long Term: 11% decrease-$901,100; 752-Interest Short Term: 0% increase/decrease-$150,000. Mike Nicholson moved to accept the Historical Commission, Maturing Debt, Interest Long Term and Interest Short Term budget proposals, seconded by Vinny Valastro, all in favor.

912-Fringe Workman’s Comp: 10% increase-$440,000. Vinny Valastro moved to accept the Fringe Workman’s Comp budget proposal, seconded by David Levine, all in favor.

913-Unemployment Comp: 0% increase/decrease-$200,000. Vinny Valastro moved to accept the Unemployment Comp budget proposal, seconded by David Levine, all in favor.

914-Employee Health Ins: 4% increase-$16,800,000. Vinny Valastro moved to accept the Employee Health Ins. budget proposal, seconded by David Levine, all in favor.

610-Library: 2.8% increase-$1,497,348. Mike Nicholson moved to accept the Library budget proposal, seconded by David Levine, all in favor.

Posting of Subcommittees and Contacts: Discussions followed regarding who people should contact with questions; either specific departments or posting committee chairmen’s phone numbers on the website. Al Correia said he will put his name on the list. All members were asked. 1 yes, 6 no. Dave Levine deferred.

Countryside Update: Andy Lizotte reported that they have not given us any information as yet and we have no obligation to save them. Al Correia would like to invite them into out next meeting. Chris Morin said “too bad if they put in another Article for money. We’ve given them $5 million already.”

Subcommittee reports: Andy Lizotte reported that he met with the Fire and Police Chiefs concerning being able to charge for 911 calls. Also for ambulances, that we should look into reimbursement charges for ambulances. Discussions followed regarding going to the Select Board to discuss these matters.

Lauren Wilton moved to adjourn, seconded by Andy Lizotte, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Diana Hearns

Documents reviewed: Budget Proposals