**Sturbridge Finance Committee**

**Meeting Minutes of June 5, 2023**

**Tantasqua Regional high School**

**Call to Order**

The Finance Committee (FC) Chair called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Members present: Kevin Smith (KS) Leigh Darrin (LD), Michael Hager (MH), Michael McGlone (MM), Kathy Neal (KN), Ken Talentino (KT), James Waddick (JW).

Members absent: Joe Freitas (JF), Larry Morrison (LM).

Guests: Finance Director Barbara Barry (BB).

**Reserve Fund Transfer**

The Building Inspector (BI) requested $1,750 to pay the costs for an interim building inspector which were already incurred to provide coverage while the BI was on vacation.

The available reserve fund balance prior to this request was $58,500.

BB explained that in the past other town BI’s would cover, at no cost to Sturbridge, when coverage was needed when the BI was away or on vacation and the BI would reciprocate when needed to assist other towns. When the BI arranged coverage during his recent vacations, the mutual coverage arrangement was no longer in effect or available, so the BI made arrangements to have coverage provided for a fee. Services were provided and itemized on invoices submitted to the Town.

The BI budget for FY2023 as well as prior years did not cover costs for coverage when the BI was on vacation or otherwise unavailable. This transfer is requested to cover the costs that were incurred and not anticipated at the time the budget was set.

The Town Administrator (TA) will address future use of interim coverage with the BI prior to engaging a future interim. The need for supplemental funding of the FY 2024 budget, if any, will also be addressed by the TA.

MH moved the motion to transfer $1,750 from the Reserve Fund to Account #12412-52000; LD seconded the motion. Motion accepted 7-0-0.

**New Business**

KS noted that the Senior Center bids appear to come in at approximately $14.5 million which is more than the $13.23 million which would be approved by Town Meeting should tonight’s ATM Warrant article pass. The Building Committee is reviewing the bids and working with the architect to make adjustments in an effort to reduce the costs.

KS confirmed that the FC will meet at 7:00 PM on June 13 to discuss the open meeting law complaint that was filed and any other business that may come forth.

**Adjournment**

MM made a motion to adjourn at 6:47 p.m.; KN seconded the motion. Motion approved 7-0-0.