

**Finance Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 5:30 pm
Bellingham Municipal Center
Arcand Meeting Room**

Finance Committee Members Present: J. Allam (Chairman), J. Collamati (Vice-Chairman), K. Keppler, B. Boyd,

Finance Committee Members Absent: J. McCarthy, J. Kuzmeskas

Meeting Commenced: J. Allam called the meeting to order at 5:48 pm.

Minutes from the October 25, 2023, Finance Committee Meeting were tabled until the next meeting.

Public Hearing: DPW Director, Jesse Riedle was present to discuss the North Main Street Milling and Paving project, as presented below:

Mr. Riedle gave a presentation on the proposed North Main Street milling and paving project from Town Center north to Hartford Avenue.

The Road Committee met this past Friday and made a recommendation to move forward with the project. However, the numbers provided in the preliminary quote presented are subject to change when the project actually goes out for bid.

The estimated quotes are based on recent roadwork in town and will require some additional items and costs to be added, such as some maintenance and assessment of the condition of thirty-nine drainage structures in the roadway. The Road Committee approved the project for \$1.5 Million. However, it is expected to be slightly higher once the project would formally go out to bid.

Mr. Riedle let the Committee know that the project wouldn't take place until the next round of Chapter 90 Allocation. Based on what is available for funding at this point, the earliest estimated timing of the project wouldn't take place until Summer of 2024 at the earliest.

Mr. Riedle confirmed this will be a contract with one vendor for the complete project, and any additional or specialized work, if necessary, will be performed by a subcontractor. There will not be multiple contracts.

Due to the estimated cost of this project, it would deplete most of the DPW Department's funding for FY24, which is a concern to Ms. MacKinnon and the Committee members. In addition, without knowing the exact pricing of project and additional funding that will likely be required, additional questions were raised regarding the exact specifications on what this project would include. There are many additional items that still need to be addressed with this project and without having the bids at this time makes it difficult to recommend.

It is expected this project will be considered for the May 2024 Town Meeting.

J. Collamati made a motion to withdraw funding for the North Main Street Milling and Paving project until the May 2024 Town Meeting. B. Boyd seconded. Recommended 4/0.

New Business, Emails, Correspondence, Bills:

The next Finance Committee Meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, prior to Town Meeting

J. Collamati made a motion to adjourn at 6:16 pm. Seconded by J. Kuzmeskas. Approved 4/0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina M. Griffin
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