# Needham Finance Committee Minutes of Meeting of January 25, 2023

The meeting of the Finance Committee was called to order by Chair John Connelly at approximately 7:00 pm in the Great Plain Room at Needham Town Hall, also available via Zoom teleconference.

# Present from the Finance Committee:

John Connelly, Chair; Louise Miller, Vice Chair

Members: Karen Calton, Carol Smith-Fachetti, Carli Hairston, James Healy, Joshua Levy,

Richard Reilly

#### Others present:

David Davison, Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director

Kim Hewitt, Director, Needham Public Library

Kathleen Cahill Allison, Chair, Library Trustees

Carys Lustig, Director of Public Works

Shane Mark, Assistant Director of Public Works

Cecilia Simchak, Director of Finance/Administration for Public Services

Barry Dulong, Public Works, Director of Building Maintenance

Rhainhardt Hoyland, Public Works, Highway Superintendent

Edward Olsen, Public Works, Parks and Forestry Superintendent

Mike Retzky, Public Works, Superintendent of Water, Sewer, and Drains

Kristen Wright, Public Works, Management Analyst

Matthew DeMarrais, Acting Superintendent Recycling and Solid Waste Division

## **Citizen Requests to Address the Finance Committee**

No requests.

## **Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings**

MOVED: By Mr. Reilly that the minutes of the meeting of January 11, 2023, be approved as

distributed, subject to technical or typographical corrections. Ms. Calton

seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 8-0.

MOVED: By Mr. Reilly that the minutes of the meeting of January 18, 2023, be approved as

distributed, subject to technical or typographical corrections. Ms. Fachetti

seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0-2 (Mr. Connelly

and Ms. Miller abstained.)

## **FY2024 Department Budget Hearings**

#### **Needham Public Library**

Mr. Reilly introduced the budget. He stated that the FY24 staffing level remains the same as last year with 27 FTEs, comprised of 16 full-time and 36 part-time employees. The FY24 salary and wage total is \$1.8 million, an increase of 2.9%, which includes increases of \$44K for regular

salaries and wages and \$8K for temporary salaries and wages. The actual increase for temporary salaries and wages is \$4,600 more than stated on the DSR2 because the salary line for temporary employees is increasing by \$8,125 rather than \$3,525. The expense line is \$417K, which is up \$26K or 6.7%. The largest components are \$132K for books, \$101K for digital items, and \$80.5K for professional and technical services, most of which is fees for the Minuteman Network. The total requested budget for the Library is \$2,235,734, an increase of \$78,677 or 3.6% over the FY23 budget. He stated that the Library has access to additional sources of funds from state aid and trust funds.

Ms. Hewitt stated that the Minuteman Network consists of over 40 libraries in the metro-west area that provides for sharing of resources. It gives Needham residents access to 6 million items instead of 175 thousand items. The network also provides the library services electronic platform which the Library uses for the online catalog, checking out material, phone applications, access to electronic materials, etc. It provides many more resources than the Library could afford on its own. Minuteman also provides some technical support.

Ms. Hewitt stated that libraries in Massachusetts are governed by the state Board of Library Commissioners that sets requirement for how libraries operate. Library aid is provided from the state based on certain statistics such as utilization, population, and how much funding the town provides to the library. Needham's use of library state aid is governed by a policy of the Trustees of the Needham Library, so any spending requests must go through the Trustees. She stated that the library creates an annual plan for how it will spend state aid. State aid is paid in two disbursements each year. Recently, the Library received a disbursement for approximately \$30K which is not yet reflected in the materials provided, since those funds are not yet available for spending. She stated that, per the Trustees' policy, the Library cannot spend state aid money received in one fiscal year until the next fiscal year. She stated that they use it for new pilot programs that they are testing or for enhancements such as the Overdrive Advantage application which allows the Town to provide additional copies of popular items to reduce wait times for the Needham residents. They have used state aid funding recently for a planning consultant, for an art appraisal (the Library's Wyeth collection) and for staff training. Ms. Hewitt stated that another source of funding is from trust accounts. The spending from these accounts also needs to be approved by the Library Trustees. She added that the use of the various trust funds is governed by the trust documents which have a variety of restrictions such as funding for children's materials only, or restrictions on the portion of income or principal that can be used in a year.

Ms. Hewitt described the space planning study that was funded last year and is underway. She stated that they are getting ready to select the designer. The goal is to assess the space needs inside the library to determine what changes are needed. They expect to complete the design work over the summer, and potentially request construction funds at the fall Special Town Meeting. Mr. Connelly asked if there is any connection between the Library's strategic plan and the space planning study. Ms. Hewitt stated that they are informing each other. The space planning focus group has provided data from surveys to help guide the space planning. Mr. Reilly asked if there is any integration of Library services with the senior center. Ms. Hewitt stated that there are potential partnerships. She stated that the Library currently does not have enclosed areas with computers to run computer classes though they hope to create more flexible space to be more useable for different purposes. She stated that they have held computer classes at the Center at the Heights. She stated that a huge part of the strategic plan will be to focus on outreach to more of the community, which is separate from building use.

Ms. Miller asked whether state aid is being spent. She stated that the Finance Committee has worked with the Library to create plans to continue spending the funds on a regular basis, but it appears that they are accumulating funds again. She noted that the proposed spending for cameras remains on the list of planned expenditures. Ms. Hewitt stated that they felt it was not wise to install the cameras before they have determined how the use of space may be changed, but they are still planning to buy them and to use state aid. Ms. Miller stated that the Library has always been concerned that the state won't provide the aid. Though the amount may vary, it is important to encumber the funds and to use them, since the funds can be released if they are not encumbered. Ms. Hewitt stated that it has been a slow year for spending because they are focused on the strategic plan and the space planning study. They are waiting to see what they planning leads to and what expenditures will be the most appropriate uses of state aid.

Ms. Miller asked for the chart of circulation and use of services which compares FY19 and FY22 since looking at information from 2020 or 2021 may not be as accurate of what to expect in terms of demand. Ms. Hewitt stated that the numbers continue to trend upward, and that the DSR2 stated that there were increases of 13% in print material circulation and 60% in e-book circulation since 2019. Ms. Fachetti stated that the number of website hits has decreased significantly from FY21 to FY22. Ms. Hewitt stated that the new website was rolled out in FY21, so that brought additional interest. Also, FY21 was during the pandemic when the building was closed. When the building re-opened, the website hits dropped significantly. She stated that the FY22 level was about 9,000 hits per month, which is high in a town of 30,000. Mr. Levy stated that the children's programming is very highly attended. Ms. Hewitt stated that there is significant outreach to children through the town and schools. In the strategic plan they would like to see the same kind of outreach across all age groups. Mr. Levy asked if the Library of Things has items for children. Ms. Hewitt stated that they rolled it out in October and it has things for people of all ages. They see about 81 circulations per month from the Library of Things, so it is well used. They hope to add more items.

Mr. Reilly stated that there was a capital request for a chiller for the Library, but it is possible that ARPA funds would cover it. Mr. Davison stated that they are requesting the Select Board to authorize ARPA funds to pay for it. Mr. Reilly stated that the Library had no DSR4 requests.

## **Department of Public Works**

Mr. Reilly introduced the budget. He stated that this department is the second largest operating division, after the schools. It has a different service model than most budgets, with 40% of its total budget being expenses, compared to expenses comprising less than 10% of the Police and Fire departments, and approximately 15% of the School budgets. This means that there is more reliance on the supply chain and more susceptibility to the inflation being experienced in the broader community. Some expenses are for supplies, but a major component for the expense portion is for outsourced services. He stated that an issue worth discussing is whether some of the services that could be performed in-house should be continued to be contracted out, and whether those choices should be re-examined, and what are the costs and benefits of each choice. He stated that the service delivery model in other communities ranges from providing almost all services in-house to almost all being outsourced. He stated that safety is most important, but there is an issue to consider concerning what level of service the Town wants to provide.

Mr. Reilly stated that the base budget includes a flat headcount, with salaries increasing \$332K or 4.15%, and expenses increasing \$536K or 6.6%. The requested increase in the base budget is 5.1%. He stated that if all DSR4s were approved, the salary line would be up \$768K or 7.35%, the expenses would be up \$639K, leading to a total budget increase of \$1.49 million or 7.8%. He stated that 84% of the increase in expenses falls within three areas: Repairs and Maintenance, Other Property Related Services, and Vehicular Supplies. He stated that the first two areas account for \$5.7 million or 66% of the expense line. The HVAC costs by themselves amount to almost \$1 million.

Ms. Lustig stated that safety is the most important priority in the budget, followed by infrastructure preservation, and then infrastructure enhancement. She stated that the majority of the budget is in the first two categories. She agreed that the budget is expense heavy, since they have made the choice to provide approximately 50% of services in-house, and to contract out about 50% of services. She stated that this flexibility provides a strategic advantage since they are not overly reliant either on hiring for specific functions or on outsourced services. She stated that the custodians' union will have a new contract with the Town for FY24. The department believes that it is cost effective to outsource a portion of custodial services to avoid those legacy costs. She stated that Wellesley has all in-house custodians, and they have a significant amount of liability. Dedham contracts out custodial services and therefore has much less staff. She stated that she feels that from both financial and operations perspectives, the model that Needham uses is effective.

Ms. Lustig stated that the budget increase is higher than recent years, much of which is due to the changes related to construction costs, which is seeing staffing shortages and supply chain issues, as well as general inflation. She noted that ARPA funds led to an increased demand for construction workers. She noted than increases is materials costs will affect projects whether they are done in house or outsourced. Mr. Healy asked when the last analysis was done regarding providing services in-house versus outsourcing. Ms. Lustig stated that they have not done an in-depth analysis across service areas, but have analyzed custodial services to compare to the marketplace because those services recently went out to bid. They have also looked at mowing services. Mr. Healy asked for a copy of the custodial analysis that was performed, and also to provide any other comparative analyses they have done. He noted that the Town used to provide most services in-house, and he recognizes that circumstances change over time so it can be helpful to review the model.

Mr. Healy asked if there is a Town mandate to install granite curbing at edges of streets. He noted that it is becoming more costly and feels it is not always desirable. Ms. Lustig stated that there is no mandate but they do try to use it in certain areas such as for handicap ramps or to channel water. Mr. Healy asked about field conditions. Mr. Olsen stated that they are in the best condition that he has seen, in spite of the drought last summer and the very wet fall. He stated that the sod on the common is doing well and that it is bluegrass and can be expected to green up slowly in the spring. Mr. Healy asked if the trash issues in the parks have improved. Mr. Olsen stated that the new park ranger has been hired, and is doing well. He is providing a presence in the parks and is able to enforce rules and build relationships, so the situation is improving.

Ms. Lustig described the most significant changes in the budget. She stated that salary increases are primarily due to new contracts for positions covered by BCTIA and NIPEA agreements. The wage increases also affected overtime costs. There was also an increase in maintenance programming. She stated that there are typically about 6 absences per day in maintenance staff,

so those shifts need to be backfilled. She stated that they are fully staffed and finding it easier to hire custodians. She stated that on the expense side, the costs of vehicular supplies are increasing, mostly due to increasing costs of vehicle parts and tires. She stated that they are keeping vehicles longer than expected, partly due to the difficulty in securing new vehicles, so there are more vehicle repairs. She stated that gasoline consumption is decreasing, so the increased expenses for gas are due to price increases. She stated that the budget assumes gas costs \$4.38 per gallon and diesel costs \$5.48 per gallon. She stated that the tonnage of solid waste at the RTS is increasing, which is compounded by an increase in the tipping fee of 7% and a 1% increase in the contracted cost for hauling. She stated that as disposal costs increase, they are trying to redirect more items. Mr. Reilly noted that the Dedham disposal facility has closed, so more waste is coming in and the Town is looking at raising the disposal fees. Mr. Healy stated that the Finance Committee last year had advised increasing rates. Ms. Lustig stated that they did not raise commercial rates. Ms. Miller commented that the budget will still need to increase as costs increase and that a rate increase would not change the budget but would be an offset in revenue.

Mr. Healy asked about the 45% increase in gas consumption in the highway division. Ms. Simchak stated that the department has transitioned from diesel to gas vehicles, so more of the Town's vehicles use gasoline. Mr. Healy asked if the switch is financially beneficial to the Town. Ms. Simchak stated that one of the Green Communities requirements is to look for most greenhouse gas efficient vehicles. Ms. Lustig stated that the decision to transition from diesel had more to do with the fact that the emissions control equipment in diesel vehicles were failing prematurely. Mr. Reilly noted that diesel costs are currently more expensive than gas.

Ms. Simchak stated that the other significant area of increase is HVAC costs. The department outsources most of the HVAC preventative maintenance, which is mostly filter changes, for about \$270K per year. Another \$600K is in the budget for on-call repair services. They have been trying to fill an in-house HVAC position for close to a year, but have not had any qualified applicants. There are currently 4 people covering 23 buildings, so they are increasing relying on outsourced services, even for triage. She stated that there is another \$112K in the budget for the software program that allows the department to monitor systems remotely and make certain changes as needed. The ultimate cost of the HVAC budget, which is just under \$1 million, is \$0.71 per square foot per year, which provides 11 hours of service per building. She noted that the systems are expensive and require this level of maintenance. In response to a question from Mr. Healy, Ms. Simchak stated that the requested increase in HVAC costs was \$327K. Mr. Healy noted that the increase is significant. Ms. Miller stated that the liaisons asked which standards the department is trying to meet, and who is making the determinations of how much service is needed. Ms. Simchak stated that they are still working on providing information on the standards.

Ms. Lustig noted that there has been a change of operations relating to HVAC. The Town used to allow systems to fail and then would react with major repairs. They used to be concerned only with comfort. Now they are concerned with air quality and air exchanges and are trying to perform more preventative maintenance to avoid failures. She stated that during Covid, they brought all of the HVAC systems up to design specifications in order to reach an air exchange rate that people were comfortable with during the pandemic, but now they have brought the airflow down to industry standards. They are now operating at standards that are higher than they were pre-Covid, and they think the current level of maintenance is appropriate. Mr. Healy asked why the one line item is increasing by over \$300K. Ms. Simchak stated that she did some

budget reorganization to break up the repairs and maintenance costs to better show where expenses were. Some of the increase in this line comes from better accounting for HVAC costs, while other budget lines have decreases in repairs and maintenance. Ms. Miller stated that there can be further discussion once the information on industry standards and manufacturer recommendations is available. Mr. Reilly stated that he would like to know more about the ASHRAE standards regarding air circulation and exchange. Mr. Davison stated that the Town has been meeting or exceeding ASHRAE standards since Covid, and is now bringing some metrics down to the compliance level.

Ms. Lustig stated that there is a DSR4 request for a new floater custodian position. She stated that the position is still needed though it was not funded last year. There is now one floater custodian for the whole town. The additional cost of the position will be offset by a decrease in overtime costs. Ms. Fachetti stated that having 6 absences per day for 41 employees seems high. Ms. Lustig states that much of the staff is senior and have 5 weeks of vacation annually, plus sick time. She stated that she would provide a chart showing the absences. Ms. Lustig stated that there is also a DSR4 requesting a heavy machinery equipment operator (HMEO). It is part of a 2-year plan to provide additional staffing for the highway division. Last year, a Laborer II position was funded. The HMEO position will be able to help provide cost savings to the Town. They will be part of a crew doing prep work in the summer before paving companies come in. When roads are prepared ahead of time, the paving work costs less because there is less risk. In the winter, the HMEO would provide more staffing for the snow program. Mr. Connelly asked if there is equipment that is not being deployed because there is insufficient staff. Mr. Hoyland stated that there is spare equipment because of vacancies. Mr. Connelly asked what happens if there is full staffing. Mr. Hoyland stated that currently they are understaffed so they are sending anyone who is trained to drive the snow equipment out including the assistant engineer and managers. Ms. Lustig stated that the additional position would also allow the Town to fully staff the salt program.

Ms. Lustig stated that the third DSR4 request if for an assistant supervisor in the Fleet division. There was a position requested in Fleet last year, but it was reevaluated and they decided the assistant supervisor was needed. The size of the fleet has expanded, and more technical expertise is needed. The position would provide better management and efficiency. She stated that there is an assistant supervisor in the RTS. Mr. Reilly stated that there is a DSR4 request for an employee trailer at the RTS. Ms. Simchak stated that the trailer is the one location where staff can come in from the outdoors and take a break away from the general public. She stated that the current trailer leaks and has substandard bathrooms. This request would fund the annual rental in the operating budget until there is a permanent solution, after the RTS service study is completed.

Ms. Lustig stated that there is a DSR4 request for a Sustainability and Resiliency Coordinator. The request is marked as a zero priority, but that is only because they are not sure which department's budget the position should fall under. Many departments have sustainability requirements. This would provide one central person to provide guidance on sustainability efforts and to seek grant opportunities. Ms. Simchak stated that she and Hank Haff have been working with the Climate Action Plan Committee, which has this position as a goal. Mr. Connelly asked if there is a model for this position in other towns. Ms. Lustig stated that Arlington has provided information on the position and on cost reduction and sustainability. She stated that the only DSR4 request from the DPW recommended by the Town Manager was the RTS trailer.

Mr. Reilly stated that there are three DSR5 requests and asked if there was anything new. Ms. Lustig stated that the requests are the same items from the past few years, including the annual facilities maintenance program, transportation improvements, and surveys of Town land. Mr. Connelly asked about the road repairs that are required after Eversource finishes a project. Ms. Lustig addressed the different levels of street repair which depend on how recently the Town has reconstructed the road. Mr. Connelly stated that there should be more communications with residents about what they are doing. Ms. Hairston stated that she lives near Eversource and that they are very hard to deal with and to get a hold of. She called for more transparency about what they plan to do and when the work is done and when the repairs have to be finished. Ms. Lustig stated that Mr. Mark has started meeting with Eversource gas and Eversource electric representatives to get a plan about what they are going to do and when. She noted that they are known to be difficult to deal with, but the Town is making progress in getting commitments from them. She stated that Public Works has also not been clear to the public about the role it plays in the permitting process and what the Town requires as part of permitting. Mr. Healy stated that it is important to some coordination between what Eversource plans to do, what the Town plans to do, and what the residents expect.

Mr. Reilly stated that there is a DSR5 request for funding surveys of Town-owned land. He feels that this issue merits discussion later since the Finance Committee has discussed it and had questions in the past. The Town Manager has previously recommended funding these surveys. Ms. Miller stated that the liaisons discussed the surveys, and that this will be discussed as part of the discussions on warrant articles.

Mr. Levy stated that this is a huge budget covering many projects. He stated that there is much more work that could be done such as bringing sidewalks to certain quality standards and being ADA compliant. He stated that at the liaison meeting they agreed that it was not just money but operating changes that would be needed to be able to address the deficiencies. He asked if there are any priorities that are not being met in the FY24 budget and what operational changes would be needed to address those needs. Ms. Lustig stated that, using sidewalks as an example, the Town lacks specific policies, procedures and guidelines to address the deficiencies. She stated that in the interim, they have decided to keep the inventory level and not add any more sidewalks. She stated that the Select Board has created a Committee to address the need for more policies and guidelines. She stated that the Town needs to figure out the standards to be met for each division in order to be able to determine where they stand. Ms. Miller noted that the Town funded a sidewalk study and ended up with a list of sidewalks. There is a need for standards and a complete study that leads to a report. Ms. Lustig stated that there is a committee on mobility that will create a 5-year plan for infrastructure priorities. Mr. Reilly stated that there should be more consideration of the business model of insourcing versus outsourcing of services, as well as standards for the level of services to be provided. He stated the there is a need for clear direction on what standards are being sought and how to get there.

## **Sewer Enterprise Fund**

Mr. Levy introduced the FY24 Sewer budget. There is an overall increase of 1.4%, with salaries and wages increasing 6%. He stated that the budget provides level funds for the MWRA assessment which is a significant amount of the budget. Ms. Miller stated that the MWRA increase is the same each year at 3.9%. Mr. Davison stated that he does not yet have the assessment, and does not expect to have it until May at the earliest. He has put in a level dollar

amount, and will adjust the requested budget needed in the fall or earlier if the assessment is available. He stated that the MWRA's overall budget is increasing in FY24. There are two additional factors that drive Needham's MWRA assessment for water including the Town's share of the district, which is increasing, and the Town's use of MWRA water in the last calendar year, which also increased. He stated that he expects the MWRA sewer assessment will also increase, though not to the same extent. Mr. Reilly stated that the Sewer budget excluding the MWRA assessment is increasing 6.8%. Mr. Davison stated that increase represents the salary and wages and costs of capital equipment used by the DPW, but the overall increase include debt service payments which are significant and are level funded. This brings the overall budget increase to the 1.4% amount.

Mr. Reilly asked how the drains programs work as part of the budget. Mr. Davison stated that the drains program includes the work done to maintain and clean the brooks and culverts. This work addresses NPDES stormwater requirements and is the responsibility of the General Fund. While the actual work is done within the Sewer division, the General Fund pays the amount needed to cover the drains program expenses into the Sewer Enterprise Fund.

Ms. Miller asked why the mechanical/electrical costs were increasing so much in the sewer budget. Mr. Retsky stated that there are some issues with pumps, including wear and tear and damage that need to be addressed at some of the stations including Cook's Bridge/Milo Circle and Alden Rd.

# **Water Enterprise Fund**

Mr. Levy stated that the Water budget is increasing 6.2%, partly because of two items in the capital operating budget, an actuator valve and a trailer, and also due to a large increase in the supplies line. Ms. Simchak stated that there is a huge increase in the cost of water chemicals. One vendor pulled out because they could not fulfil the contract, and the Town had to go back to the market and the cost had jumped.

#### **Fleet**

Mr. Davison stated that the Fleet discussion would best be addressed with capital.

#### **Townwide Expenses - Needham Electric, Light and Gas**

Mr. Reilly stated that the total FY24 budget for this line is \$5.6 million, with a substantial increase of \$1.5 million or 37.2% over FY23. The expenses include a supply component as well as regulated costs for transmission and distribution. The electricity expense is up \$426K, based on a long-term supply contract that is expiring at the end of December 2024, halfway through FY25. The current marketplace supply cost for electricity is \$0.23 per kWh, which is 250% more that the Town's current contract rate of \$0.09 per kWh. The cost of natural gas supply is increasing \$1.151 million in the FY24 budget. The Town had a long term contract at \$0.66 per therm that expired in November 2022. The estimated cost per therm is \$3.30 for FY24. Mr. Reilly stated that the conversion of buildings from oil to natural gas heat has been beneficial since the consumption of fuel oil has reduced significantly. Oil prices have risen over 150% recently, but natural gas prices are going up now. He stated that the Town's solar farm produces energy to sell to Eversource. There is a cost of production to the Town, and then the Town sells it at a margin. The projected energy production is reduced by 10% due to deterioration of the

panels over time, something that was known when the project was started. At some point the Town will need to decide whether it is worth replacing the panels, but not yet.

Mr. Levy stated that the consumption over the past five years for electricity has increased 31.5% and for natural gas has increased 42.5%, so that the cost increases are not merely due to prices. Mr. Connelly stated that this may reflect the fact that new buildings have come online. Mr. Levy agreed that may be part of the reason, but suggested that conservation efforts would be worth considering. Ms. Miller stated that this point ties into the HVAC discussion since the Town consumes more electricity when the buildings are pushed to higher standards.

Mr. Connelly stated that natural gas price increases are happening and electricity increases are coming, and asked if the increases such as this \$1.5 million increase will continue in this budget line. Mr. Davison stated that he expects the increases in the cost of natural gas will level off, and the increases in electricity for electricity costs will be spread over two years. He stated that there should be a moderation of increases in consumption since there will be no major new buildings coming online, and the Town will not continue the high intensity use of systems that were in place during Covid. He expects energy prices to moderate also because coal burning plants have closed and been replaced with plants using natural gas, and because there will likely be an increase in the natural gas supply to New England in 2025-2026.

#### <u>Updates</u>

Mr. Connelly stated that the next meeting will wrap up the budget hearings, and then the Committee will discuss its budget recommendation.

Mr. Reilly stated that he attended the School Committee's meeting with the demographer to discuss projected enrollment. He stated that school enrollment is expected to remain at or above the maximum class size guidelines for the foreseeable future. Mr. Levy noted that the demographer stated that there may be enough enrollment to justify an addition to one or more buildings but not enough for a new school. Mr. Connelly commented that the Town will not get back to 2018 or 2019 enrollment levels for a long time and the Schools have historically been able to house everyone. Mr. Reilly stated that the demographer said that the fertility rate is below replacement levels, so new families moving in will be key to seeing enrollment growth. He stated the economic conditions are important to the demographer's findings, and he has assumed mortgage rates to be between 5-7% for the foreseeable future. If the rates are in this range, he does not expect a decline in home sales. Mr. Levy noted that he said that the volume of home sales is the aspect of which the demographer said that he is most uncertain. He stated that the only assumption of new housing is the Wexford St development.

# **Adjournment**

MOVED: By Mr. Healy that the Finance Committee meeting be adjourned, there being no

further business. Ms. Calton seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a

vote of 8-0 at approximately 8:59 p.m.

Documents: FY2024 Department Budget Requests; Library Supplementary Information; DPW Supplementary Information.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Mizgerd Staff Analyst

Approved February 1, 2023