



Town of Middlefield Finance Committee

04/23/24 Meeting

In attendance:

Adair Laurel-Cafarella Gita Jozsef
Stephen Harris, Secretary Jonathan Freiermuth

Also attending:

Ken Murray Tamarin Laurel-Paine

Quorum, call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

Review minutes from previous meeting:

Minutes from previous meeting on 04/16/24 were approved as written.

2025 budget & ATM warrant:

Minor updates to the ATM warrant were reviewed.

Any other business:

Members examined samples of floor tiles offered for donation to the town hall asbestos removal and replacement project. As this attractive, durable, and easy to maintain flooring would cut renovation costs by thousands of dollars, it was agreed that it made a compelling offering.

Discussed how some River Road residents feel isolated owing to the poor state of sections of their road and other roads they must navigate to reach the center of town.

Now that ATM warrant is finalized, future FC work will need to focus on how to best apportion scarce long-term capital resources for building maintenance/renovation for the church, senior center, and other potential projects.

Concern was expressed that instead of expending scarce funds to install a paper compactor at the transfer station – which would help clean up the area while saving labor and hauling costs – the Selectboard is entertaining to finance an engineering study that may lead to costly mandated wetlands restoration and building renovations or even demolition and rebuilding.

It was noted that no new grants have been obtained in recent months, including any via the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission of which the town is a member.

Again, there appears to be little progress transitioning town accounting from Springbrook to the VADAR Systems municipal accounting software, which was supposed to have started in March for completion in June.

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be on May 7th at 5 pm.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 6:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen B. Harris". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.