

## Winthrop Finance Commission Minutes

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Date: Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 6:00pm  
Attendees: TOW: Bobby DiMento (BD), Arthur Hickey (AH), Jim Letterie (JL), Sarah Johnson (SJ), Robbie Powers (RP)  
FC: Brent Farrell (BF), Karin Chavis (KC), William Gault (WG), Matt Gorzkowicz (MG), Hannah Belcher (HB), Joe Hanlon (JH)  
Absent: John Macero, Shannon Poulos, John DaRos, Max Tassinari

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Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm by MG.

Rollcall vote completed by KC. All present except individuals noted above. Members unable to vote on prior meeting minutes due to attendance.

Focus of meeting will be on the discussion and review of the Larsen rink and harbormaster budgets.

### *Larsen Rink (BD)*

- Indirect costs increased by 20%
- Discussion related to cost allocation amongst various enterprise funds
- Electricity costs are low due to solar credits, expected that there wont be significant savings against budget from last year
- Additional revenue from schools due to existence of JV hockey team
- Rental rates are below competing rinks nearby, due to amenities
- Ice isn't utilized full-time and there is availability

### *Harbormaster (AH)*

- Focused on increasing revenues from prior years
- Increasing waterways fees from \$200 to \$250 and non-residents from \$250 to \$300
- Raised rates in marina from \$105 per foot to \$125 per foot
- Improved lighting, plumbing, etc.
- Ramp fee is currently \$10, which is mandated by the state
- 33 slips are fully utilized, five town boats occupy slips
- Town had not been reconciling to Department of Environmental Police billings to capture additional revenue, doing so now
- Need exists for dredging and new finger floats in near future, not believed to be part of capital plan

Various discussion points amongst the members included:

- ~60% of employees utilize health insurance. 211 school employees use health insurance, 144 do not. 106 town employees use health insurance, 48 do not
- GIC costs are increasing ~10% on roughly \$5MM annual expense, sizable increase over prior years
- 85/15 cost sharing could be changed to 80/20, not possible to change certain contracts. State and large number of other towns have moved to 80/20 or 75/25. Consider changing for future contracts.
- Winthrop Housing Authority pays roughly \$20K annually. Utilization is approximately 400 barrels which would equate to \$64K in expense annually.
- Consideration should be made to increasing trash fee or decreasing bin size
- MG to research how often towns successfully implement overrides

BF motioned to adjourn; WG seconded. Approved by all present members.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.