

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER

Finance Committee

Nathan Schofield, Chair
Eric Langone, Vice Chair
Lea Wyatt
Julie Scleparis
Suzi Robinson
Christopher Blunt
MJ Spagone
Rigobert Noel
Kathleen Martin



Academy Building - 66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

Bridgewater Finance Committee (Fin Com) Agenda for the Fin Com Meeting Convening on March 2, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Disclosure: Pursuant to Section 20 of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, An Act Relative to Extending Certain Covid-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency, this meeting of the Finance Committee for the Town of Bridgewater will be fully remote and accessible to the public through remote participation to the greatest extent possible. There will be no in person attendance permitted. Citizens who wish to tune in to the meeting may do so via Zoom or Facebook Live.

Link to join meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87679886805>

Call In: 1-646-876-9923

Meeting ID: 87679886805

Call to Order at 7:00PM

Approval of Meeting Minutes – 2/16/2022

Public Comment

New Business

- Order O-FY22-047 Loan Order - Fire Stations
- Order O-FY22-048 Acceptance of Grant COA
- Order O-FY22-049 Transfer Order Non-Union
- Ordinance D-FY22-019 Acceptance of Local Tax Option - Retail Marijuana Tax

Additional Items for Discussion

Adjournment of Meeting



Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Council Order: O-FY22-047

Introduced By: Town Manager
Date Introduced: February 15, 2022
First Reading: February 15, 2022
Second Reading/Hearing:
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Order O-FY22-047

LOAN ORDER – FIRE STATIONS

ORDERED: that \$23,000,000 is appropriated to finance the following projects, including all costs incidental and related thereto: (i) constructing and equipping a new fire station, in the approximate amount of \$21,000,000, and (ii) renovating Fire Station 2, in the approximate amount of \$2,000,000; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Town Manager is authorized to borrow an aggregate amount of \$23,000,000 and issue bonds or notes therefor under Chapter 44 of the General Laws or any other enabling authority; that the Town Manager and Treasurer are authorized to contract for and expend any aid, grants or gifts available for the projects; and that the Town Manager and Treasurer are authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out these projects; provided that any appropriation hereunder shall be subject to and contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by Chapter 59, Section 21C of the General Laws (Proposition 2 and 1/2).

Explanation: *This appropriation and loan order pays for the building of a new fire station/headquarters as well as the renovations to Fire Station II contingent on a positive debt-exclusion vote by the voters of Bridgewater.*

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
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Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Council Order: O-FY22-048

Introduced By: Town Manager
Date Introduced: February 15, 2022
First Reading: February 15, 2022
Second Reading/Hearing:
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Order O-FY22-048

ACCEPTANCE OF GIFT COA

ORDERED: that the Town Council assembled vote to

WHEREAS: Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, §53A, states as follows:

“An officer ... of any city or town ... may accept grants or gifts of funds from ... from the commonwealth ... or an agency thereof, ... and may expend such funds for the purposes of such grant or gift ... with the approval of the city manager and city council...;” and

WHEREAS: The Town of Bridgewater has received a gift award from the Bridgewater Fire Union members, Now, therefore, in accordance with Chapter 44, §53A of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Town Council votes to take the following action:

ORDERED that the Town Council of Bridgewater, Massachusetts in Town Council assembled vote to accept the grant of \$1,000.00 from the Bridgewater Fire Union, to expend the grant in accordance with stated purpose thereof.

Explanation:

The Fire Department has generously donated \$1,000.00 to the Senior Center for the purposes of contributing towards a replacing the tent which was destroyed in the Noreaster.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
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Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Council Order: O-FY22-049

Introduced By: Town Manager
Date Introduced: February 15, 2022
First Reading: February 15, 2022
Second Reading/Hearing:
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Order O-FY22-049

TRANSFER ORDER NON- UNION

ORDERED: that the Town Council assembled vote to

Pursuant to Section 6-4 of the Town of Bridgewater Charter, that the Town Council of Bridgewater, Massachusetts in Town Council assembled vote to appropriate and transfer from below schedule Source of Funds to below schedule Use of Funds:

Source of Funds	Account No.	GL Account Description	Amount
OTHER ONE TIME STABILIZATION FUND	80135-596100	TRANSFER TO GF	\$ 26,643.78
Total:			\$ 26,643.78
Use of Funds	Account No.	GL Account Description	Amount
Salaries Town Council	01115001-510000	Salary & Wages Full Time	\$ 1,067.10
Salaries Town Manager	01235001-510000	Salary & Wages Full Time	\$ 1,594.04
Salaries Finance Accounting	01355001-510000	Salary & Wages Full Time	\$ 11,001.88
Salaries Finance Treas/ Coll/Payr	01455001-510000	Salary & Wages Full Time	\$ 2,027.74
Salaries Town Clerk	01615001-510000	Salary & Wages Full Time	\$ 1,412.84
Salaries CED	01825001-510000	Salary & Wages Full Time	\$ 2,096.88
Salaries Town Building	01925195-510000	Salary & Wages Full Time	\$ 1,165.03
Salaries Animal Control	02925001-510000	Salary & Wages Full Time	\$ 984.16
Salaries DPW	04105001-510000	Salary & Wages Full Time	\$ 1,171.71
Salaries Transfer Station	64005001-510000	Salary & Wages Full Time	\$ 828.23
Salaries Veterans	05435001-510000	Salary & Wages Full Time	\$ 808.69
Salaries Library	06105001-510000	Salary & Wages Full Time	\$ 2,485.48
Total			\$ 26,643.78

Explanation:

Funding of the Non-affiliates compensation FY22 to be in alignment with settlements of other Town Bargaining Units

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

NOT FOR ACTION – FIRST READING

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
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Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Council Ordinance: D-FY22-019

Introduced By: Councilor Wood
Date Introduced: February 15, 2022
First Reading:
Second Reading:
Third Reading:
Amendments Adopted:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Proposed Ordinance D-FY22-019

General Ordinance – Acceptance of Local Tax Option – Retail Marijuana Tax

WHEREAS, The Town Council voted in 2016 to establish the Elm Street Retail Overlay for the zoning of medical marijuana treatment centers, also known as Registered Marijuana Dispensaries (RMD); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bridgewater has two RMD's; and

WHEREAS, both RMD's bought their properties on Elm Street in 2016; and

WHEREAS, both RMD's received Planning Board Decision Letters for site approval in 2016; and

WHEREAS, both RMD's have Community Benefit Agreements (Host Agreements) signed with the Town prior to 1-July-2017; and

WHEREAS, both RMD's have licensing from the State prior to 1-July-2017; and

WHEREAS, M.G.L. Chapter 94G, Section 3, states that, "except that zoning ordinances or by-laws shall not operate to: (i) prevent the conversion of a medical marijuana treatment center licensed or registered not later than July 1, 2017 engaged in the cultivation, manufacture or sale of marijuana or marijuana products to a marijuana establishment engaged in the same type of activity...", and

WHEREAS, when there is a conflict between local ordinances and State Law, State Law has preemption; and

WHEREAS, in their judgment (SJC-13029, 30-Aug-2021), the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) found unanimously in favor of CommCan in their lawsuit against the Town of Mansfield, which was attempting to prevent CommCan, a medical marijuana dispensary, to become a Retail Marijuana Establishment; and

WHEREAS, the SJC, in their decision, said that CommCan was covered by the exclusion as defined in M.G.L Chapter 94G, Section 3, and that Mansfield could not prevent the conversion to a Retail Marijuana establishment; and

WHEREAS, both of Bridgewater RMD's satisfy the requirements as stated in SJC-13029, making them eligible for licensing as a Marijuana Retailer; and

NOT FOR ACTION – FIRST READING ONLY

WHEREAS, at least one of the RMD's in the Town of Bridgewater has begun the effort to obtain a Retail Marijuana license;

NOW THEREFORE, the Town Council assembled votes to accept M.G.L, Chapter 64N, Marijuana Tax, Section 3, Local Tax Option, and sets the tax rate to be 3 percent of the total sales price received by the marijuana retailer as a consideration for the sale of marijuana or marijuana products.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
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