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By Karen Wilber at 8:19 am, Jan 05, 2023

TOWN OF NORTHBOROUGH Community Preservation Committee

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Community Preservation Committee

November 3, 2022

Approved December 2, 2022

Members Present: John Campbell, Chairman; Andy Clark, Millie Milton, Sean Durkin, Jeff Leland; Peter Martin; Todd Helwig

Members Absent: Leslie Harrison, Andy Dowd

Others Present: Scott Rogers, 26 Tomahawk Drive; Julianne Hirsh, 19 Smith Road; Norm Corbin

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm.

Follow-up Discussion of CPA Accounts Status

Mr. Campbell summarized the Finance Director's report which had presented at last month's meeting. The estimated revenue for FY24 is \$770,000; their minimum number is \$77,000, which is 10% of that figure. The unreserved fund balance is \$847,000; Affordable Housing has \$202,000; Open Space and Historic Reserve are at 0. That gives a total of \$1.8M available.

Mr. Campbell had begun a worksheet listing requests versus available funds; this year's applications come to a total of \$3.3M, with a total of \$1.8M in available funds, the White Cliffs bond (\$188,000) will also need to come out of that. \$38,500 will be designated for the administrative account.

Review of CPA FY24 Applications

Applications were distributed and briefly reviewed.

Mr. Corbin will contact Ms. Davies regarding her application for the Aqueduct Multi-Use trail; it should be brought before the Historic District for comment as the trail will run alongside a historically registered property.

Mr. Campbell asked Mr. Corbin to speak about a recent court ruling that he'd brought to his attention. Mr. Corbin said it was with regard to a court ruling on a CPA grant for religious organizations, the concern being keeping religion and state separate. That particular case concerned repair of stained glass windows which were religious in nature. Because of this, and with regard to the application submitted by the First Parish Church for steeple repairs, it was suggested to seek legal opinion to see if those repairs are justifiable as a CPA expense. Mr. Campbell will ask Ms. Connors to contact Town Counsel.

Set Agenda and Date for Start of Public Hearing

Public hearings will be held on December 1st and most likely continued into January. There are ten applications, eight of which will have presentations by the applicants; one is for a Conservation Fund request, the other is Affordable Housing's summary. Each applicant will have 15 minutes to present.

A schedule was established. Staff will set the agenda for the public hearings and forward as appropriate.

Old/New Business: Consideration of Minutes (10.6.22)

Mr. Leland made a motion to approve the minutes from October. Mr. Clark seconded. The vote was five in favor with two abstentions (Mr. Clark, Mr. Helwig).

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Cilley
Recording Secretary