

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 16, 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/87321169878>

Call In: 1-646-876-9923

Meeting ID: 87321169878

Call to Order at 7:00PM

Approval of Meeting Minutes – 3/2/2022

Public Comment

New Business

- Order O-FY22-051: Transfer Order Town Hall Roof Repair
- Order O-FY22-052: Transfer Order Sewer PS Wetwell Repair

Old Business

- 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, March 1, 2022

Council Order: O-FY22-051

Introduced By: Town Manager
Date Introduced: March 1, 2022
First Reading: March 1, 2022
Second Reading/Hearing:
Amendments Adopted:
Third Reading:
Date Adopted:
Date Effective:

Order O-FY22-051

TRANSFER ORDER TOWN HALL ROOF

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
CAPITAL STABILIZATION	80105-596010	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL	\$ 100,000.00
Total:			\$ 100,000.00
Use of Funds	Account No.	GL Account Description	Amount
TOWN HALL ROOF REPAIR	TBA	CAPITAL PROJECT	\$ 100,000.00
Total			\$ 100,000.00

***Explanation:** The old Town Hall roof is in need of replacing. The Town Clerk, as chair of the Old Town Hall Ad Hoc Committee, has identified a grant that could offset the cost of the roof by up to 50%. The reimbursement grant requires that the Town first appropriate the full amount. Given the possibility of a grant match, the Town Manager is asking for this additional capital appropriation now instead of next year.*

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
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Bridgewater Town Council

In Town Council, Tuesday, March 1, 2022

Council Order: O-FY22-052

Introduced By: Town Manager
 Date Introduced: March 1, 2022
 First Reading: March 1, 2022
 Second Reading/Hearing:
 Amendments Adopted:
 Third Reading:
 Date Adopted:
 Date Effective:

Order O-FY22-052

TRANSFER ORDER SEWER PS WETWELL REPAIR

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
SWR RES SPEC PURPOSE	6100-358000	TRANSFER TO CAPITAL	\$ 220,000.00
Total:			\$ 220,000.00
Use of Funds	Account No.	GL Account Description	Amount
SWR CAPITAL	TBA	CAPITAL PROJECT	\$ 220,000.00
Total			\$ 220,000.00

Explanation: As part of the Town's ongoing Collection System Capacity-Management-Operation-Maintenance and Asset Management Program an evaluation of noticeable damage was noted, and subsequently, immediate repair of the Route 104 Sewer Pump Station Wetwell is deemed necessary to avoid further corrosion.

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

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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