MINUTES

Plainfield Finance Committee Meeting Tuesday, March 22, 2021, 7 p.m. Remote Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Present were committee members David Kramer, Roberta Wooldridge, Tee O'Sullivan, Robert Baker, and Bob Silberberg. Also present were Pleun Bouricius, Patrick Williamson, Martha Thurber, Dudley Williams, Greg Lily, and Lily Thompson.

The minutes of the March 1, 2021, meeting were accepted.

For its next meeting on finalizing the budget, the committee decided to ask those requesting salary or stipend increases to appear before the committee.

The committee voted to propose to the town a cost of living adjustment of 1.5% for all salaries, based on the calendar 2020 federal consumer price index of 1.4%.

At 7:30 p.m., the committee met with representatives of the Mohawk Regional School District to discuss the school budget and the request for funding for capital improvements. Martha Thurber agreed with the sentiment voiced by the chair that the continuing increases to the towns' assessments above the rate of inflation were unsustainable. She explained the new budget and the proposal for capital improvements, stating that warrant items for the latter would be provided to the town, one for FY2023 and another for the years thereafter. If the towns supported one or both items, they would be assessed by the district, which would borrow the money for the project.

The committee decided to defer a decision whether to recommend borrowing money for a new grader for the Highway Department or taking the funds from the stabilization fund, depending on the current interest rates.

The committee voted to support the Fire Department's budget request.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Minutes prepared by David Kramer