

Rowe Finance Committee  
Rowe Town Hall September 21, 2023

Present: Finance Committee (FC) Chair, Dan Pallotta, FC Vice-Chair, Marilyn Wilson, Loretta Dionne

Dan called the meeting to order at 6pm.

Loretta moved to accept the minutes of the June 29, 2023 meeting as written; Dan seconded the motion; roll call vote: Dan, aye, Loretta, aye, Marilyn, aye.

Discussion ensued re: a tax shift to have the utilities pay more and reduce the residential taxes. All three FC members present support this idea.

Marilyn reported that Rowe's per capita income is not very high, in other words, our town has a good many people who could benefit from lower taxes.

At the same time, it was noted that the utilities are enjoying significant profits with ever increasing charges to electricity customers.

It was decided to broach this subject with the Select Board and the Assessors.

Dan reported that he had engaged with an architectural company, Dietz & Company of Springfield, MA who assessed the roof on the municipal safety complex and gave an estimate of \$151,000.00 to replace that roof.

The FC also discussed the needed repairs and renovations at the Rowe Town Library to make that facility handicapped accessible.

Dan stated that he would like to see a new format for department heads to use when constructing their budgets, as well as a different format for the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Marilyn asked Dan to sketch these out and bring them to a meeting for perusal by the FC members.

Dan moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10pm; Loretta seconded the motion; roll call vote: Marilyn, aye, Loretta, aye, Dan, aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Wilson

Dan Pallotta

Loretta Dionne

Marilyn Wilson