



Martha Reese Flanagan

## WELLFLEET TOWN FINANCES AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

As we are sure you have been following, the town of Wellfleet is trying to come out of the fiscal mess that it has been in for the last few years. In late February, the state's Department of Revenue (DOR) issued a report. (You can read it in the [Selectboard packet](#) for February 28, 2023 (pages 6-48). There was a long discussion during the first hour at the February 28, 2023 Selectboard meeting that you can watch (at this [link](#)) should the gory details of messy municipal finance fascinate you. The *Provincetown Independent* covered the meeting too (viewable at this [link](#)) if you want the Cliff Notes version.

The town's accounting fiasco has somewhat obscured the underlying issue of the steadily rising cost of running the town. As the Selectboard chair Ryan Curley noted at the February 28 meeting, how is the town supposed to set priorities given many differing mandates? You can also see the budgets submitted at the February 28 and March 7 Selectboard meetings by looking at the February 28 packet cited above and the [March 7 packet](#).

The WSRA and the Wellfleet Community Forum are discussing holding a joint public meeting on these issues before the April 28th town meeting. We will make it hybrid so as many of you who are still off Cape can watch and participate. Among the issues to be discussed are how the town can meet all the new obligations being discussed, what priorities there ought to be, how the state/federal government can and cannot help us. Above all, there needs to be consideration of the uniqueness of this situation when the demands on the town swell in the summer and become more quiescent in the off season.

One way that WSRA tries to support the year-round community is to tap the professional expertise of our members. We are hoping one of you, or another seasonal resident you know, has professional municipal finance/accounting expertise and would be willing to volunteer some time to advise us. If so, kindly get in touch with Lyra Campbell, our administrator, at our email: [info@wrnta.org](mailto:info@wrnta.org). We would

appreciate it.

More details on the meeting once the date is set.

Regards,

The WSRA board of directors

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