

Attendees:

Lori Mix, Trustees Chairwoman (LM)
Robert Grunbeck, Trustee (RG)
Bill Dunn, Alternate Trustee (BD)
Dick Lefebvre, Alternate Trustee (DL)

Eric Jessaume, Cambridge Trust Co. (EJ)
Judith Noel, Cambridge Trust Co. (JN)
John D'Angelo, BOS liaison (JD)

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm by LM.
2. Public Comments – None
3. LM motion to approve the minutes from the October 20,2021 meeting. RG BD seconded. All voted to approve.
4. Cambridge Trust Investment Report - Below some of key highlights. A copy of the full report is available at Town Hall.
 - a. Stock market valuation remains historically elevated, but a recent market correction and positive earnings revisions have brought it down to levels closer to the 25-year average.
 - b. U.S. equities have outperformed international equities for extended periods of time and continue to outperform this year.
 - c. The US dollar has strengthened against major world currencies, particularly the euro, as economic growth concerns and geopolitical risks impact current markets. A strong USD typically favors US equities over international equities
 - d. The Federal Reserve's own forecasts and the Fed funds futures market indicate several interest rates hikes over the coming year, leveling off at approximately 3% in 2023.
 - e. Cooling the economy and stopping inflation without tipping the US economy into recession will be very challenging for the Federal Reserve as it manages its interest rate and balance sheet policies going forward.
5. Capital Reserve Funds (CRF) investment discussion:
 - a. No major expenditures/withdrawal requests from the CRFs planned by the town or Amherst or Souhegan Schools at this time. Anticipate \$33,237.27 withdrawal from the Communications Center CRF and scholarship awards in the amount of \$18,185.00 from various trusts sometime this summer.
 - b. Discussion followed by decision:
 - i. Sell four Certificates of Deposit (CDs) with maturity dates of 2023 and 2024 and purchase CDs to mature in 2025 and 2026 to minimize losses and realize gains.
 - ii. Move \$500,000 in cash to a 6-month treasury bill, and \$500,000 into 2 one-year CDs.
6. Trust & CRF Deposits & Withdrawals:
 - a. The Amherst, NH Trustees of the Trust Funds voted to authorize the withdrawal of \$4,526.93 from the David E. Fiske Trust Fund to partially cover the cost of repairs to the grader. RG made a motion to approve, DL seconded. All voted in favor.

- b. The Amherst, NH Trustees of the Trust Funds voted to authorize the withdrawal of \$7,800.00 from the Town of Amherst Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve for the first year of a five-year contract for the revaluation of utilities. RG made a motion to approve, BD seconded. All voted in favor
- 7. Old Business: None
- 8. New Business – Presentation by RG. With increasing inflation and limited investment options for CRFs the large and increasing amounts of cash held in town and school CRFS are losing purchasing power. (See attached table which show inflation range impacts between 4-6%). RG requested that, as with last year, the trustees meet with the town and school boards to encourage them to spend the funds for their intended purposes and not view them as long-term savings vehicles or “rainy day funds.”
- 9. Non-Public Session – None
- 10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53pm

The next meeting is scheduled for July 27, 2022 at 6:00pm in the Felix Hertzka Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Lori Mix, Chair
Amherst Trustees of the Trust Funds