

Finance Committee Meeting
April 20, 2016
7:00 PM
Municipal Center – Selectmen’s Conference Room

Present: Chair, Stephen Evans; Vice-Chair, Michael Fiore; Peter Carignan; Thomas DeLuca; Richard Dorney; Michael Flaherty; Paul Helmreich; Lee Tarantino.

Also present: Town Manager, Michael Yunits.

Absent: Jackie Desrochers; William Rotondi; Michael Thomas.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Approval of Minutes

Minutes were not reviewed at this meeting.

II. New Business

Free Cash Discussion – Mr. Yunits informed the FinCom that when the School Department encumbers funds it becomes School Free Cash and the School Department receives the entirety, but when the town government encumbers Free Cash, the School Department receives 70% and the town side receives 30%.

Health Insurance – Mr. Yunits informed the FinCom that there’s been a reduction of \$929,652 and the new total is \$7,404,526.

Final Recommendation for the FY17 Budget – Mr. Yunits informed the FinCom that the final recommendations of the town manager for Town Government are \$11,226,368, and for Schools is \$25,887,286. He noted that this School budget reflects an increase of \$848,786, and the town government budget reflects an increase of \$46K.

FY17 Budget Re-Votes:

Motion was made by Mr. Carignan to reopen all FY17 budget articles. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: 7 members in favor, with Mr. Tarantino abstaining. **Motion carries.**

Mr. Helmreich asked for an outline and explanation of the recommended changes that Mr. Yunits made to the FY17 budget proposals. Mr. Yunits pointed out the 2 handouts in the meeting materials packet that detail the previous reductions as well as the updated reductions that put funds back into some accounts.

#123 – Town Manager

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #123-570 to \$13,150. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#141 – Assessors

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #141-570 to \$35,406. Seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#135 – Town Accountant

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #135-570 to \$4,195. Seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#147 – Treasurer/Collector

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #147-570 to \$43,355. Seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. DeLuca abstaining. **Motion carries.**

#151 – Legal Services

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #151-570 to \$70K. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#161 – Town Clerk

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #161-570 to \$5,845. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: 7 members in favor, with Mr. DeLuca abstaining. **Motion carries.**

#175 – Planning Board

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #175-510 to \$91,013. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#210 – Police Department

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #210-510 to \$2,853,480. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #210-570 to \$193,225. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#220 – Fire Department

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #220-510 to \$3,208,550. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#290 - Communications

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #290-510 to \$596,643. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#292 – Animal Control

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #292-510 to \$46,868. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#300 - School Department

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #300 to \$25,887,286. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Mr. Yunits noted that this budget does not include the (approximate) \$200K in School Choice revenue.

#420 - Highway

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #420-580 to \$8K. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#510 – Board of Health

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #510-570 to \$7,475. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#610 - Library

Mr. Yunits noted that this budget is level-funded.

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #610-570 to \$370,800. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: 7 members in favor, with Mr. Flaherty opposed. **Motion carries.**

#630 - Recreation

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #630-570 to \$11K. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#910 – Employee Benefits

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to amend account #910-511 (Other Personnel Services) to \$7,404,526. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: 7 members in favor, with Mr. DeLuca abstaining. **Motion carries.**

FY17 Total Budget:

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to approve the FY17 total budget in the amount of \$51,535,754. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Annual Town Meeting Articles:

- *Article 6 – Chapter 40B*

Mr. Yunits stated that he recommends appropriating \$10K.

Motion was made by M. Fiore to recommend Article 6 in the amount of \$10K. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

- *Article 11 – Capital Improvements Appropriation*

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to recommend "No Action" for Article 11. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

- *Article 13 – By-Law Amendment*

Mr. Yunits updated the FinCom stating that the alternates on the board would only participate if there is no quorum.

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to recommend Article 13 as written. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: 7 members in favor, with Mr. Tarantino opposed. **Motion carries.**

7:45 – Motion was made by Mr. Carignan to recess for the Public Budget Hearing. Seconded by Mr. Fiore. Vote: All in favor. Motion carries.

PUBLIC HEARING

7:45 - PUBLIC HEARING is called to order.

The Public Hearing began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Evans invited anyone in the audience to speak.

Mr. Bob Kimball, Selectman, thanked the members of the Finance Committee and the town employees for their hard work and cooperation on the FY17 budget proposal. He said a special thanks to Mr. Yuntis for the same.

Mr. Evans thanked Mr. Yunits for his work through this budget season.

**7:50 – Motion was made by Mr. Flaherty to adjourn the Public Hearing.
Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: All in favor. Motion carries.**

7:50 – Open Meeting is called to order to reconvene.

Annual Town Meeting Articles (continued):

- *Article 14 – By-Law Job Classification*

Mr. Yunits explained that this article would change the Town Clerk's position from elected to appointed (as long as it first passes on the ballot). He explained that if this passes then the budget would have to be re-opened and the salary would have to be moved from Elected Official line item to Personnel Services line.

It was decided that a vote would be taken on this article after knowing the results of the May 26th election.

- *Article 16 – Operating Budget*

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to recommend Article 16 in the amount of \$51,535,754. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

- *Article 17 – Stabilization Fund*

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to recommend "No Action" for Article 17. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 25, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Flaherty to adjourn at 8pm. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Documents Referenced:

FY17 Proposed budgets
Free Cash worksheet
Revised Reductions worksheet
Job Classification Salary Plan
School Department Budget

Respectfully Submitted by: _____

Stephen Evans, Finance Committee Chair

Date Approved

Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary