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**Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2018**

I. 7:00 P.M. Call to Order

The February 28, 2018 meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the Board of Selectmen Room and was called to order at 7:05 P.M., by Mr. Richard Dorney, Chairman. Members Present: Mr. Walter Eykel, Mr. Aaron Smith, Ms. Aimee Sawyer, Mr. Peter Carignan, Mr. Paul Helmreich, Mr. Richard Dorney, Mr. William Rotondi, Mr. Stephen Evans, Mr. Mike Fiore and Mr. Tom DeLuca. Not in attendance: Ms. Bonnie Yezukevich and Mr. Mike Yunits.

II. Warrant Article Discussions

Various Town departments presented their specific budgets. Mr. Keith Silver, Highway Superintendent, came before the Board and gave a brief description of the budget for Account 420 – Highway. Ms. Lee Parker, Library Director, came before the Board and gave a description of the proposed budget for Account 610 – Library. She answered multiple questions from Committee members pertaining to the proposed increases in salaries, particularly the “step” system for employees.

Ms. Charlene Fisk, Director of Communications, came before the Board and asked if there were any questions surrounding budget 155 – data processing. There were none. She then described Budget 290 – communications. There is a significant proposed increase to the proposed budget due to SEMRECC, which is the assessment to the regional center. Ms. Fisk did not have more information in regards to the assessment and Chief Clark came up and gave a description of this assessment. He stated part of this funding would be allocated for a Deputy Director. The Town is currently working on building specifications to regionalize CAD systems, staffing, etc. The information should be ready July, 2019. Mr. Carignan and Mr. Evans requested a copy of the cost savings of implementing this assessment. Mr. Bob Kimball came before the Board. He stated there is a tremendous anticipated cost savings to the Town. Grant money, regionalization and cost savings are the main reasons the Board of Selectmen support this initiative. Personnel and benefits would be eliminated from the existing budget as well as the majority of the expense budget with the exception of the assessment expense in the 290 (Communications) budget. The cost of SEMRECC for 2019 is estimated at \$51K. Mr. Smith requested documentation pertaining to the expected savings versus the \$51K spend for the assessment. Mr. Kimball stated the cost would be \$1 million and anticipated budgetary savings would be \$400K.

Police Chief Clark came before the Board and gave a detailed listing of his 2019 budget requests (210 – Police), as outlined in his provided memorandum. Then Fire Chief Schleicher came before the Board and described his budget requests for budgets 220 (Fire), 230 (Emergency Medical) and 240 (Emergency Planning). Chief Schleicher responded to numerous questions from Committee members pertaining to personnel.

III. Approval of Minutes

MOTION was made by Mr. Helmreich to approve the minutes of October 23, 2017, as amended at 8:44 p.m. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous **MOTION CARRIES**

IV. Adjournment

MOTION was made by Mr. DeLuca to Adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Rotondi. Vote: Unanimous. **MOTION CARRIES.**

Materials Provided:

- Budget Packets - #55, #210, #220, #230, #240, #290, #420, #423, and #610
- Annual Town Meeting
 - Schedule Guidelines
 - Warrant – Draft #1 February 28, 2018
 - Score Sheet

Respectfully Submitted by: Kayleigh Correia, Recording Secretary

Minutes Approved by Committee on: March 14, 2018

Signature: Richard F. Jarney