

**FRANKLIN JOINT BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 15, 2013**

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2013 AUG - 6 PM 3:03
TOWN ENGINEER

Attendees: Sue Rohrbach, Tina Powderly, Susan Gagner, Jeff Nutting, Maureen Sabolinski, Sally Winslow, Miriam Goodman, Tom Mercer, Paula Mullen, Sean Donahue

FY13 BUDGE UPDATE

Jeff Nutting reviewed the status of the FY13 budget. The snow budget is in good shape. The special election will cost the town approximately \$10K. Traffic lights will soon be installed on King St. at the Parmenter School.

FY14 BUDGET

A general discussion took place regarding the schedule for FY14 budget hearings for the Finance Committee and the Town Council. The discussion also focused on the FY14 budget and the debt schedule. The contracts for the town and school labor unions are in good shape. The schools have used an Interest Based Bargaining model during negotiations, which has been successful. Town officials continue to implement operational efficiencies in order to live within the 2.5% increase in revenue, even though expenses are rising at approximately 3%.

LONG RANGE FINANCIAL PLANNING

There was a unanimous approval of moving a resolution forward to the Town Council regarding the process for future long range financial reporting.

OPEB

There was a general discussion regarding OPEB. There was agreement that there needs to be a solution on the state level, rather than the local level. The current state plan does not go far enough. In an effort to meet OPEB obligations, the town will be putting aside \$100K annually from the budget and will be reserving 10% from free cash.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The architectural studies for the library and Davis Thayer are in the process of being completed. The plan for Davis Thayer should be completed by the end of April.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 am

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Rohrbach