



Finance Committee
 Town of Halifax
 499 Plymouth St.
 Halifax, MA 02338

Meeting Minutes
 Monday, December 12, 2016

	Gordon Andrews	Linda Braga	Mel Conroy	Stu Hall	Diane Ruxton	Vacant	Vacant
Present		✓	✓	✓	✓		

Also in attendance were Sandy Nolan, Town Accountant; Charlie Seelig, Town Administrator; Patty Forsstrom, Fire Admin Asst.; Chief Jason Viveiros, Fire Chief; Melinda Tarsi, Resident.

Mel Conroy called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. Meeting was recorded by Area 58.

Meeting Minutes

Stu Hall made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 11/28/16. Seconded by Linda Braga. Motion passed unanimously.

Mail

A copy of the Beacon was available for the Committee Members to review.

Meeting with the Fire Chief

Chief Viveiros gave an update on several aspects of the department. Ambulance receipts YTD brought in \$162,000.00 and they are expecting \$26,400.00 for Medicaid in new billing. Motor vehicle accident bill lapses are longer than expected so the money is slower coming in. The receipts are covering the staffing plan and the plan is working well. Mutual Aid is way down. We are rendering Mutual Aid but our call volume has not increased. The efficiency with the budget is going well. He can't predict what will happen with the winter coming but so far all looks good. Since July we have increased by 18 runs from last year's call volume. Expense wise they are doing well. We may need to look at the EMS line. Brockton Hospital is billing each service \$700.00 per ambulance for new medicines. Mostly they need to be replaced because of expirations. This is a cost that Brockton used to absorb however now they are billing the towns for it. The \$5,000.00 radio line item is not in the right spot. The money is really going to fix things, not replacing radios. The training line item is mostly for wages. Sometimes it is used for equipment or instructors. It needs to be discussed how it should be used. He is not asking to add funds, he just wants to add flexibility to be able to buy supplies to fix or burn instead of just wages from that line.

HES Meeting

There are going to be significant increase in SPED. It looks that it will have a \$150,000.00 decrease. \$50,000.00 will come from vocational. The rest could affect our Capital items. The Communications Center that is set to move on January 3 may possibly leave close to \$50,000.00.

Recycling

Stu mentioned issues with Recycling truck. The truck can't be started and dumped inside the building. They can't keep turning it off. If they leave it running it needs a ventilator and then we need to look at fuel costs etc. They are looking into other options.

Insurance

Insurance will be keeping the Legacy Plans. They will look at them and rate them separately. Charlie is leaving the 12% increase in for the time being.

Wage and Personnel

They are trying to change the longevity policy. They would like to take the merit increase out and increase the longevity.

8:00 Interview with Melinda Tarsi

Check with Pam on time for Melinda to meet with BOS on 1/10/17.

Calendar

1/2/17 No Meeting

1/9/17

1/10/17 – BOS to appoint Melinda Tarsi

1/16/17 – No Meeting – Holiday

1/23/17

Stu Hall made a motion to adjourn at 8:13pm. Seconded by Diane Ruxton. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Braga
Clerk