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MILLIS, MASS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes

Date: April 1, 2014

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Present: O'Connor, Kupcinkas, Hebert, O'Connell, Bartosiewicz

Absent: Girard

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Motioned by Kupcinkas, seconded by Hebert to accept the minutes of March 25, 2014 as written. Unanimous.

Motioned by Kupcinkas, seconded by Hebert to accept the minutes of March 27, 2014 as written. Unanimous.

Steven Hebert: Why did we have the meeting on Thursday? I feel that since everything was settled before hand, she shouldn't have had to meet.

Michael O'Connor: The agreement was made late in the day.

Michael O'Connor: Before we go over our budgets, I wanted to spend some time discussing Thursday's meeting. This was the first time an officer of the Town used the word override and there was no adverse response to it from the Board of Selectmen. I wanted to get your opinion on the possibility of an override.

Steven Hebert: I wasn't happy with Bob's comment that this is the way it is. I don't see why we have to go through this every year. People should start looking, this year, about managing their budgets in the coming years. I think an override is inevitable.

Albert Kupcinkas: I think it is inevitable but not in the near future.

Michael O'Connor: I don't know that an override vote will get the people starting to scrutinize the lines of the budget. The idea of closing municipal services for a day was also talked about last week.

Budget Recommendations

Town Moderator:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$200, for a total of \$200 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Board of Selectmen:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$16,800, General Expenses \$1,250 for a total of \$18,050 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Town Manager:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$17,750, General Expenses \$16,000 for a total of \$181,750 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Finance Committee:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$900, General Expenses \$250 for a total of \$1,150 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Reserve Fund:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Reserve Fund \$75,000 for a total of \$75,000 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Finance Director/Town Accountant:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$140,546, General Expenses \$4,295 for a total of \$144,841 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Town Audit:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$27,500 for a total of \$27,500 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Board of Assessors:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$114,047, General Expenses \$14,462 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Treasurer/Tax Collector:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$166,262, General Expenses \$59,548 for a total of \$225,810 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Town Counsel:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$120,000 for a total of \$120,000 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Town Hall Computer Operations:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$114,319, Capital Outlay \$14,500 for a total of \$128,819 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Town Clerk:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$114,133, General Expenses \$39,136 for a total of \$153,269 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Elections and Registrars:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$14,173, General Expenses \$17,456 for a total of \$31,629 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Conservation Commission:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$28,868, General Expenses \$1,575 for a total of \$30,443 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Planning Board:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$38,548, General Expenses \$1,850 for a total of \$40,398 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Town Planner:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$64,257, General Expenses \$2,000 for a total of \$66,257 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Town Hall:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$46,630, General Expenses \$88,400 for a total of \$135,030 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Town Report:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$2,600 for a total of \$2,600 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend a total for General Government of \$1,511,255. Unanimous.

Police Department:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$2,134,063, General Expenses \$82,085, Capital Outlay \$40,251 for a total of \$2,256,399 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Fire Department:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$345,729, General Expenses \$134,450, Capital Outlay \$17,000, Fire Hydrant Expenses \$192,000 for a total of \$689,179 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Ambulance Services

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$60,000 for a total of \$60,000 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Building Inspector:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$66,640, General Expenses \$2,500 for a total of \$69,140 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Plumbing/Gas Inspector:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$18,634, General Expenses \$400 for a total of \$19,034 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Electrical Inspector:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$16,182, General Expenses \$800 for a total of \$16,982 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Emergency Management:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$3,000, General Expenses \$13,341 for a total of \$16,341 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Animal Control Officer:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$30,000 for a total of \$30,000 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Tree Warden:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$5,255, General Expenses \$24,700 for a total of \$29,955 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend a total for Public Safety of \$3,187,030. Unanimous.

Millbury School Department:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate a total of \$19,133,159 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational HS

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Annual Operating Assessment \$748,647, Debt Excluded Capital Expenses \$47,628, Salaries (elected) \$1,928, General Expenses \$500, Agriculture School \$46,000 for a total of \$844,703 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend a total for Public Education of \$19,977,862. Unanimous.

Public Works Administration:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$94,000, General Expenses \$13,350 for a total of \$107,350 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Public Works Maintenance and Operations:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$630,984, General Expenses \$29,800 for a total of \$660,784 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Highway:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$211,000, Capital Outlay \$128,000 for a total of \$339,000 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Snow and Ice Removal:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$55,000, General Expenses \$105,000 for a total of \$160,000 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Street Lighting:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$95,000 for a total of \$95,000 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Solid Waste Management:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$91,000 for a total of \$91,000 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Highway, Cemeteries, Parks & Fields Maintenance:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$19,980, General Expenses \$41,000, Capital Outlay \$15,000 for a total of \$75,980 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Cemeteries:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$13,320, General Expenses \$24,500, Capital Outlay \$1,500 for a total of \$39,320 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Municipal Gasoline and Diesel Fuel:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$157,000 for a total of \$157,000 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend a total for Public Works of \$1,725,434. Unanimous.

Board of Health:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$45,094, General Expenses \$64,200 for a total of \$109,294 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Council on Aging:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$108,116, General Expenses \$32,350 for a total of \$140,466 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Veterans' Services:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$16,100, General Expenses \$150,100 for a total of \$166,200 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Disability Commission:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$500 for a total of \$500 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskis to recommend a total for Public Health and Human Services of \$416,460. Unanimous.

Public Library:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$211,838, General Expenses \$95,314, Capital Outlay \$61,000 for a total of \$368,152 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Park Commission:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$1,000, General Expenses \$700 for a total of \$1,700 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Asa Waters Mansion:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$46,038 for a total of \$46,038 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Historical Commission:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$400 for a total of \$400 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Memorial Day & Veterans Day Observances

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for General Expenses \$1,000 for a total of \$1,000 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend a total for Cultural and Recreation of \$417,290. Unanimous.

Employee Benefits:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Worcester Regional Retirement System Assessment \$1,350,754, Workers' Compensation Insurance Expenses \$256,000, Unemployment Insurance Compensation Expenses \$40,000, Group Health and HMO Plan Administration Expenses \$10,000, Health Insurance and HMO Expenses-Town \$1,123,571, Health Insurance and HMO Expenses-School \$3,542,838, Group Life Insurance Insurance Expenses-Town \$1,760, Group Life Insurance Insurance Expenses-School \$3,600, Medicare Expenses \$270,000, Inpatient Trust Fund \$20,000 for a total of \$6,618,523 for the purpose of funding this budget. O'Connell opposed, rest for.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend a total for Employee Benefits of \$6,618,523. O'Connell opposed, rest for.

General and Liability Insurance Expenses:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for General and Liability Insurance Expenses \$385,000 for a total of \$385,000 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend a total for General Insurances of \$385,000. Unanimous.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend a total for General Fund of \$36,984,944. O'Connell opposed, rest for.

Sewer Systems Operations and Maintenance:

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to raise and appropriate for Salaries and Wages (all) \$252,928, General Expenses \$307,439, UBWPAD Assessment \$827,412, Sewer Expansion Project Debt Service Assessment \$50,000, Capital Outlay \$25,000 for a total of \$1,462,779 for the purpose of funding this budget. Unanimous.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend a total for General and Enterprise Funds of \$38,447,723. O'Connell opposed, rest for.

Michael O'Connor: One of the reasons that I mentioned last Thursday's meeting was because of the Asa Waters. If the Board of Selectmen start talking about shutting down services next year or talk about an override, we should be looking at other alternatives instead of cutting municipal services.

Warrant Article Discussion and Voting

Article 13-Blackstone Valley Tech

Michael O'Connor: I spoke to several people involved with this and I will discuss this later with you. I added what the increase in real estate taxes would be to our reasoning.

Article 15-Rescind Excess Borrowing Authorization

Michael O'Connor: I added the reason for accepting this article.

Article 20-Transfer Between Accounts FY2014

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend the sum of \$132,328.99 be transferred from account #03-300-5350-00000-0000-520 and account #01-914-5172-00000-0000-560 for the purposes of Article 20. Unanimous.

Article 24-Sewer Expansion Project

Michael O'Connor: I just cleaned up the language in our reason.

Article 25-HVAC

Michael O'Connor: I added the language to include the increase for real estate taxes.

Article 26-SCBA Fire Department

Michael O'Connor: I added the language to include the increase for real estate taxes.

Article 27-Underground Tanks

Michael O'Connor: I added the language to include the increase for real estate taxes.

Article 28-Transfer Station Upgrade

Michael O'Connor: We need to rescind our previous vote on this. The Town Manager gave me an updated figure on this.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to rescind the previous vote on this article.
Unanimous.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend an amount of Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$450,000) be appropriated and borrowed for the purposes of Article 28.
O'Connell opposed, rest for.

Michael O'Connor: I added the language to include the increase for real estate taxes.

Article 29-Sewer System Rt 146

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) be appropriated from the Retained Earnings of the Sewer Enterprise Fund for the purposes of Article 29. Unanimous.

Article 45-Grave Opening Fee

Michael O'Connor: I fixed our reasoning for our vote.

Article 47-Road Repairs-Prior Year

Motioned Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$1,475.38 be transferred from account #01-420-5800-00000-0000-530 for the purposes of Article 47. Unanimous.

Michael O'Connor: The Warrant will be closed next Tuesday. The only additions would be if there are any other unpaid bills that need to be brought up.

Blackstone Valley Tech

Michael O'Connor: There has been much discussion between Bob Spain and the other Finance Committees involved with this. If we don't take any action on this article, it passes. We would need to disapprove the article if it doesn't pass the ballot, or we could approve it and have it included in the budget each year. We need to either approve or disapprove the article. Even if we indefinitely postpone the article, it would pass.

Michael O'Connor: We will finish up our business next week and have Tom Fox come in the following week. If everything goes smoothly, I don't think we will need to meet on April 22nd.

Next week's meeting:

Article 4 wording

Cover letter for the Finance Committee Recommendations

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Bartosiewicz to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Unanimous.

Michael Hebert
Albert P. Kupcinkas
Jennifer Connell
Steven Robert