



## **FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, February 19, 2015

Selectmen's Meeting Room

7:00 p.m.

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** David DeVries, Chair  
Roger Leland  
Richard Smith  
Thomas Spataro  
Heidi Bourque-Gleason

**ABSENT:** Michael Hodge, Vice Chair

**ALSO PRESENT:** John Coderre, Town Administrator  
Jason Perreault, BOS Liaison

Meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

R. Smith moved the committee vote to approve the meeting minutes of the November 20, 2014 meeting as submitted. R. Leland seconded the motion; minutes approved with unanimously.

R. Smith moved the committee vote to approve the meeting minutes of the December 11, 2014 joint meeting as submitted. R. Leland seconded the motion; minutes approved with unanimously.

#### **UPDATE REGARDING FY2016 BUDGET**

Mr. Coderre made a presentation to the Committee on the preliminary FY2016 Budget. He reviewed the goals and objectives of the Financial Trend Monitoring System, the budget assumptions, key budget increases and outstanding budgetary items for the FY2016 Budget.

Mr. Coderre informed the Committee that the Town has received the final Assabet Valley assessment and the preliminary ARHS assessment, which is expected to be formally voted on at an upcoming meeting of the Regional School Committee.

The proposed budgets for the key departments are estimated to increase as follows:

- Northborough K-8 Schools increases \$21,206,314 to \$21,951,539 (3.5%)
- General Government (Town) increases \$18,795,791 to \$19,456,306 (3.5%)
- Assabet Valley Vocational HS assessment increases by \$29,256 to \$857,536 (3.5%) as enrollment stabilizes. The Bond Anticipation Notes (BAN) interest charges associated with the ongoing renovation project are \$15,006.
- Algonquin Operating assessment increases \$9,176,544 to \$9,492,057 (3.5%) – based on the revenue sharing model. The debt for ARHS increases by \$3,670 to \$660,904 (0.56%)

Mr. Coderre reported that the FY2016 health insurance renewals came in favorably for the sixth consecutive year allowing for a 3% increase in the Health Insurance budget, exclusive of OPEB costs. He added that he is still waiting on the remaining debt figures to come in before the General Government departmental budgets can be finalized.

#### **REVIEW OF CIP SUMMARY AND DRAFT FINANCIAL PLAN**

Mr. Coderre reviewed the CIP Summary and draft financial plan. The FY2016 CIP plan includes over \$4 million in total capital expenses, with up to 2,582,028 funded through Free Cash, \$135,000 through Enterprise Funds and \$1,580,000 through Enterprise Funds Bonds.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### State Aid Update

Mr. Coderre reported that the current budget models assume State Aid to be level funded based upon the actual \$4.9 million received during FY2015. Due to the change in administration, the Governor's Office is given an additional five weeks to return a budget. It is anticipated that even preliminary information regarding State Aid won't be released until March 4<sup>th</sup>. In addition, the Governor continues to deal with a \$768 million State budget shortfall. Despite this, the Governor has pledged not to reduce local aid accounts.

#### **NEXT MEETING DATE AND COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

The next committee meeting will be held on March 5 at 7 p.m. The full committee schedule calendar will be discussed at that time.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

R. Leland motioned to adjourn; seconded by H. Gleason; unanimously approved at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Coderre

Documents used during meeting:

1. February 19, 2015 Agenda
2. November 20, 2014 Meeting Minutes.
3. December 11, 2014 Meeting Minutes.
4. 39 West Main Street Memo dated Feb. 6, 2015