

Finance Committee Meeting
Monday, March 13, 2017
Town Hall Selectmen's Meeting Room

Attending: Marzie Galazka (chair), Tim Dorsey (by phone in), William Jones, Joan Hilario, Maryellen Fletcher, Gail Rosenberg, Cinder McNerney, Polly Titcomb

Sean Fitzgerald, Town Administrator
Dave Castellarin, Town Accountant;
Naomi Dreeben (BOS Chair), Peter Spellios (BOS)
Ron Mendes, Town Treasurer

Sean Fitzgerald addressed the FINCOM with some introductory remarks.
Ms. Galazka described the FINCOM budget process.

Dave Castellarin presented a power point overviewing the FY '18 Budget
See Attached Power Point presentation.

Questions from the FINCOM:

Ms. Fletcher asked about how the Facilities Manager will be managed. He will still be reporting to both the TA and the Superintendent.

Ms. Sullivan asked about additions to the School Committee budget: in addition to the \$950,000 increase in the school committee – the Town is taking on an additional \$1.2MM of costs previously taken on by the schools: \$145K for the facilities, \$40K for snow removal, \$60K for the elimination of the 53rd week needed for last year.

Mr Jones encouraged the School Committee to negotiate higher Nahant tuition that is more in line with what the costs are to the Swampscott School System. Ms. Dreeben reported that the School Committee is aware of the FINCOM's position on this matter. Ms. Galazka indicated that FINCOM would invite the School Committee to attend a future meeting to discuss the impact of this.

Leah Ryan of the Capital Improvements Committee indicated that the CIC is to be meeting this week on the capital issues.

One time financial articles coming up (Spellios):

- 1) \$850,000 appropriation of free cash for the Rail Trail design and securing of easement rights.
- 2) \$1.5MM appropriation of Free Cash as a one time pay down of our retirement liability.
- 3) Reimbursement for the purchase of a Council on Aging van (\$20k)
- 4) Re-establishing the revolving funds under a new state law that requires a bylaw on revolving counts.
- 5) Reduce the speed limit to 25 mph.

- 6) Municipal modernization law changes the way OPEB trust funds are established – we need to accept the statute and then establish a trust fund.

Maryellen Fletcher asked if prior year actuals could be included in the warrant so that town meeting members have a better understanding of how much was spent for each line item over the past year.

Maryellen Fletcher asked if the Facilities Manager has done a complete assessment on all upcoming capital needs for town assets so that the finance committee can make recommendations given our long time goals for capital assets.

Motion made by Maryellen Fletcher to approve the minutes from our 11/22 minutes, seconded by Polly Titcomb. Approved 8-0.

Discussed upcoming meetings.

Mrs. Sullivan requested that the FINCOM have an opportunity to have Mr. Fitzgerald at a meeting to discuss his philosophy, priorities and ideas about process.

Next meeting will be Monday March 20, 2017 at 7:00PM at Town Hall.

Town Resident Brian Maloney spoke on the Rail Trail. Asked how to get more involved in the conversation about the Rail Trail.

Motion to adjourn by Bill Jones seconded by Gail Rosenberg. 8-0.8:00