

Westborough Advisory Finance Committee
Minutes of Meeting No. 16 FY2006
March 9, 2006

Approved
March 13, 2006

Members Present: Chairman J. J. Malone, Rich Gottlieb, Jo Lown, Ronn Moody, Cliff Watts
Members Absent: Polly Howard, Ian Johnson, Judy Lucas, Carolyn Spring
At 7:00 p.m. Chairman Malone called the meeting to order in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

Open Forum

There were no requests to address the committee.

Discussion of FY2007 Library budget

Library Director Carolyn Delude presented and explained the proposed budget: Salary/Wages \$604,799 and Expenses \$210,310 for a total of 815,109. The budget includes increased hours for library pages and for the Vacation Replacement account. A question as to how much trust fund income could be applied against the budget without affecting state library aid was raised. Ms. Delude will look into this and inform FinCom. The library trustees were also in attendance.

Discussion of FY2007 Moderator budget

Town Moderator Joe Harrington presented and explained the proposed budget: Salary/Wages \$250 and Expenses \$0 for a total of \$250. Mr. Harrington also inquired about the Committee's progress in meeting with department heads for discussions of budgets.

Discussion of FY2007 budgets overseen by the Town Coordinator and Asst. Town Coordinator

Asst. Town Coordinator Maryanne Bilodeau presented and explained these budgets:

Town Buildings and Grounds

Salary/Wages \$158,916 and Expenses \$202,600 for a total of \$361,516. Mr. Malone suggested that the one-time expenditure for a boiler at the Country Club be taken from the budget and put into an article.

Insurance

Salary/Wages \$0 and Expenses \$8,249,708 for a total of \$8,249,708. The greater part of the increase in this budget is for group medical insurance.

Town Coordinator Henry Danis presented and explained these budgets:

Selectmen/Coordinator

Salary/Wages \$267,529 and Expenses \$45,950 for a total of \$313,479.

Legal

Salary/Wages \$0 and Expenses \$142,000 for a total of \$142,000. Mr. Danis noted that there may be a need to revise to this budget.

Communications

Salary/Wages \$0 and Expenses \$41,500 for a total of \$41,500.

Central Purchasing

Salary/Wages \$0 and Expenses \$90,000 for a total of \$90,000.

Animal Control

Salary/Wages \$44,720 and Expenses \$24,280 for a total of \$69,000.

Street Lights

Salary/Wages \$0 and Expenses \$52,000 for a total of \$52,000.

Mr. Danis discussed the following articles:

Rule of the Meeting – the wording has been changed to make it consistent with current Town Meeting reconsideration rules.

Fiscal Year 2006 Budget Transfers

Settlement of Eminent Domain Case – relates to taking of land for Indian Meadows well site.

Amend Action by Previous Town Meeting – asks for additional borrowing authorization of \$150,000 for completion of Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan.

Purchase Land and Building – requests \$1,172,500 for purchase of property located at 50 Milk St.

Department Head Employment Contracts – a bylaw to authorize the possibility of contracts (as opposed to salary schedules) for department heads.

Consideration of request for transfer to Legal budget

Mr. Danis requested a transfer of \$62,000 from the Finance Committee Reserve Fund to the Legal Expenses budget, account 11513. Mr. Watts moved approval of the transfer. The vote to approve the transfer was unanimous.

Approval of minutes

Mr. Watts moved approval of the minutes of Meeting No.14, March 2, 2006. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous.

Consideration of request to increase deficit spending in Snow/Ice expense budget from \$50,000 to \$75,000

A memo from DPW Manager John Walden requested this change. Mr. Moody moved to authorize up to \$75,000 in deficit spending in Snow/Ice Expense budget. The vote to approve this authorization was unanimous.

Comments and concerns of Committee members

Mr. Malone noted the possibility of combining Debt – Principal, Debt – Interest and Certification of Notes into one voted budget..

Adjournment

At 9:02 p.m. Mr. Watts moved to adjourn the meeting. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.