

April 5 2016

BOARD of FINANCE

Meeting Minutes

Approved

ATTENDANCE: The meeting was convened at 7:30 pm by Chairman Ezzes in the Town Hall meeting room with members Mr. Finkel, Mr. Sargent, Mr. Grauber, Mr. Ferguson, Ms. Koller, and Mr. Bochinski present. Also present were First Selectman Daniel, Town Administrator Landry, Finance Director Darling, School Superintendent Palmer, Business Manager Rudl, and BOE members Schaeffer, Uzenoff, McNeil, and Major.

OPEB: The Board reviewed the update contribution projections provided by Hooker and Holcumb. The Board voted to adopt an assumed earnings rate of 6.75% for projection purposes, and further elected to utilize an 8 year closed cycle for amortization purposes (Mr. Sargent motion, Mr. Bochinski second). Using the 5 year average payment as has been the practice in previous years, the FY2016-17 contributions will be \$25,400 for the Town and \$47,000 for the BOE.

COMPENSATED ABSENCES ACCOUNT: Mr. Landry presented a memorandum he had provided earlier to the Board, describing the expenses incurred for payment of unused leave when employees retire from the Town. He said this cost has averaged \$63,000 annually over the past five years. Currently, we do not budget for this expense, so it serves to diminish the fund balance if there is not an overall budget surplus sufficient to cover these amounts. The Board discussed the matter at some length, and ultimately voted unanimously (Mr. Sargent motion, Mr. Bochinski second) to table the proposal.

SELECTMEN'S OPERATING BUDGET: The Board voted unanimously (Ms. Koller motion, Mr. Sargent second) to recommend a FY2016-17 operating budget amount totaling \$12,497,995. This amount differs from that requested by the Board of Selectmen with reductions of \$90,000 to the health insurance account due to a lower than expected rate increase, a reduction in the OPEB contribution rate of \$49,600 as described above, reductions totaling \$31,244 in ten separate energy accounts (detail attached) and a \$5,000 reduction to the community grants account. The approved budget also removes the \$345,000 in contributory revenue from the Board of Education budget to partially offset the cost of the School Resources Officer.

BOE OPERATING BUDGET: The Board voted unanimously to recommend a BOE operating budget for FY2016-17 in the amount of \$48,905,141(Ms. Koller motion, Mr. Bochinski second). This amount includes the reductions voted by the BOE after it submitted its budget to the Board (\$150,000 reduction in the Internal Services Fund amount and \$100,347 reduction in the WTA early retirement account) as well as the \$162,000 reduction in the OPEB funding amount described above.

CAPITAL BUDGET: The Board voted unanimously (Mr. Sargent motion, Ms. Koller second) to recommend a FY2016-17 capital budget totaling \$1,171,689. This includes Town items totaling \$687,100 as requested by the Board of Selectmen, and BOE items

totaling \$484,589. The BOE total reflects the final BOE requested amount, which eliminated two items contained in the BOEs original request (move copy center- \$30,000; and remove oil tank replacement funding- \$65,000).

DEBT and INTEREST: The Board voted unanimously (Mr. Finkel motion, Mr. Ferguson second) to recommend a total debt service budget of \$6,308,838 for FY2016-17.

MEETING MINUTES: In a single motion (Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Bochinski second) the Board voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes of February 11 and March 7 as presented.

ADJOURN: At 9:08 pm, a motion (Mr. Bochinski, Mr. Finkel second) to adjourn the meeting passed by unanimous vote.