

**Finance Committee
Selectboard
April 5, 2017
Town Offices**

The regular meeting of the Finance Committee and Selectboard of the Town of Whately was called to order on April 5, at 6:00 pm by the Chair, Paul Antaya. Present were Finance Committee members Fred Baron, Bob Fydenkevez, Dan Kennedy, Tom Mahar, Jim Kirkendall, and Joe Zwenski; Selectboard members Paull Newlin, Fred Orloski and Jonathan Edwards, Town Administrator Brian Domina and Administrative Assistant, Maryellen Cranston.

Motion was made, and seconded, to approve the minutes of March 21, 2017. Vote was unanimous.

Discuss differences in budget recommendations – The Finance Committee felt the budget increase was too high for the police department and wanted to reduce it closer to a 5% increase. The Board feels all the line items are not treated consistently. Paul Newlin pointed out the overall budget is a negative increase. Chief Sevigne explained many of the increases in his budget are out of his control. The cost of purchasing a taser was a source of discussion. Joe recommended that all departmental increases should not happen in one year. The Finance Committee decided to leave the police budget with a \$2500 reduction. The suggestion was made to amend the budget on town meeting floor to restore the money.

The South County Senior Center Revised budget resulted in a \$700 increase due to a step increase.

Benefit payout due a retiring employee - \$10,000 is needed for the employee's payout. Keith asked to retain the additional \$2000 originally budgeted to cover costs for a new hire. This was not recommended.

Capital budget – Fire department turn out gear – The price goes up 5% after December 31st. The Selectboard felt this was a higher priority than the school request for the clock/intercom. The request is for 23 suits. The school is requesting an improved security system which encompasses phones, clocks and an intercom. It is not irresponsible spending to ensure safety for both areas. Finance Committee and SB supports funding of both requests at the full level. It was strongly recommended that Chief Hannum still apply for grants for turn out gear.

\$5K will go to capital stabilization, but be earmarked for the highway garage.

The Finance Committee final vote on budget requests

Motion was made, and seconded, to recommend Article 7. Vote was unanimous.

Motion was made, and seconded, to recommend Article 8. Vote was unanimous.

Motion was made, and seconded, to recommend Article 9. Vote was unanimous.

Motion was made, and seconded, to recommend Article 10 with a total budget of \$4,890,939. Vote was unanimous.

Items not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting – Extensive discussion occurred on the timing of the school budget. The Finance Committee would like to work with the School Committee to improve the timing.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:37 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Domina, Town Administrator

Document List

Finance Committee Proposed Changes/Additions to the FY18 Operations and Capital Budgets & Selectboard Responses

4/3/17 Preliminary Omnibus Budget #4 and #4a

Statement of Account Balances

Whately Capital Improvement Plan Worksheet #1

Whately Capital Improvement Plan FY2018

Summary of Projected Expenses

Summary of Projected Non-Property Tax Revenue

Summary of Projected Property Tax Revenue

4/4/17 Draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant