

**TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE, MA.  
JOINT SELECT BOARD-FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES OF THURSDAY MARCH 8, 2018 AT 3PM**

- 1. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 3:15 PM.**
- 2. SELECT BOARD ATTENDEES: DON CHABON, CHUCK CARDILLO AND TERENCE FLYNN**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE ATTENDEES: JAY BIKOFSKY, JIM BALFANZ, MARY BOYCE, NEIL HOLDEN, DIANE REUSS, JIM MCMENEMY AND STEVE SHATZ**

- 3. THE JOINT SELECT BOARD-FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 28, 2018 WERE APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE; 5 WITH TWO (2) ABSTENTIONS (NEIL HOLDEN AND JIM MCMENAMY BEING ABSENT AT THE MEETING).**
- 4. THE NEXT MEETING OF THIS JOINT COMMITTEE WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 22<sup>ND</sup> AT 3 PM. THIS MEETING WILL REVIEW THE BUDGETS OF AMBULANCE, HIGHWAY, LIBRARY AND TRI-TOWN-HEALTH.**
- 5. BUDGET REVIEW AND DISCUSSION:**

**DANIELLE REPORTED TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE THAT SALARY NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN FINALIZED. THE AGREED UPON SALARY SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:**

**1.5% INCREASE 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR (FY 19)  
1.75% INCREASE 2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR  
2.0% INCREASE 3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR**

**DANIELLE ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE FY 19 BUDGET WOULD APPLY FREE CASH TO OFFSET CAPITAL EXPENSES. THE PROPOSAL WOULD INCLUDE A TRANSFER OF \$500,000 IN FREE CASH TO STABILIZATION CREATING \$1 MILLION NET IN THE STABILIZATION ACCOUNT AND \$1 MILLION NET REMAINING IN FREE CASH. THIS ACTION WOULD ULTIMATELY REQUIRE A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND APPROVAL BY THE SELECT BOARD.**

**DANIELLE FURTHER MENTIONED THAT ONCE THE REVISED OPERATING BUDGETS AND PROPOSED WARRANT ARTICLES WERE COMPLETED, COPIES WOULD BE E-MAILED TO THE SELECT BOARD AND FINANCE COMMITTEES.**

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- 6. PILOT PROJECT BUDGET: THE COMMITTEE WAS REMINDED THAT THE SELECT BOARD APPROVED THE FORMATION OF A PILOT (PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES) STUDY COMMITTEE FOR THE TOWN'S NON-PROFITS. IT WAS MENTIONED THAT TOM STOKES WOULD BE PRESENTING A BUDGET FOR A U.MASS. INTERN AT THE SELECT BOARD MEETING ON MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup>.**
- 7. PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGET: STEVEN KNOF OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE PRESENTED SEVERAL REQUESTS.**

**HE PROPOSED AN INCREASE IN THE COMPENSATION OF THE LIFE GUARDS, COMPARABLE TO OTHER SURROUNDING TOWNS. THE COMMITTEE SUGGESTED THAT FURTHER SPECIFIC DETAILS BE PROVIDED BEFORE APPROVAL.**

**STEVEN THEN PROPOSED A BUDGET LINE FOR INDEPENDENT GROUNDSKEEPING FUNCTIONS INCLUDING MOWING AND MAINTENANCE. THE COMMITTEE SUGGESTED FURTHER FOLLOW-UP WAS NEEDED TO DETERMINE POSSIBLE SUPPORT BY THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT. A SUBSEQUENT VOTE WILL BE REQUIRED BY THE JOINT-COMMITTEES.**

**LASTLY, STEVEN SUGGESTED THAT MONIES BE ALLOCATED FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS. THESE INCLUDE NEW BENCHES, DOCK INSTALLATIONS, AS WELL AS INSTALLATION OF ROPE BARRIERS. THE COMMITTEE SUGGESTED THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MORE DETAILED CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST.**

- 8. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BUDGET: CHRIS MARSDEN WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING. DANIELLE MENTIONED THAT AN INCREASE IN THIS BUDGET WAS PROPOSED, WHICH WOULD BE OFFSET BY A GRANT. A VOTE AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE SELECT BOARD IS REQUIRED.**
- 9. TOWN OFFICES: DANIELLE PRESENTED SEVERAL ITEMS AS RESPECTS THIS BUDGET.**

**THE FIRST WAS A REQUEST TO INCREASE THE EXPENSE LINE FOR PART-TIME JANITORIAL SERVICES BY \$1,000 TO COVER WEEKENDS AND VACATIONS. NEXT INCLUDED A REQUEST TO INCREASE THE HOURS FOR BRENDA, HOUSEKEEPER FOR THE TOWN OFFICES, BY 5 HOURS PER WEEK AND TIME AND ½ ON WEEKENDS. HER INCREASED BASE SALARY WOULD BE \$29,049. VOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO THE SELECT BOARD ARE REQUIRED.**

**IT WAS SUGGESTED BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE THAT THE FUEL BILLS BE REVIEWED AND COMPARED TO PRIOR YEARS FOR THE FY 20 BUDGET.**

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**A CAPITAL REQUEST OF \$50,000 WOULD BE PRESENTED AS A WARRANT FOR CAPPING THE STUMP WASTE LANDFILL. THIS ESTIMATE WAS PREPARED BY THE PROJECT CONSULTING ENGINEER. A VOTE AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE SELECT BOARD IS REQUIRED.**

- 10. FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET: CHUCK CARDILLO DISCUSSED A LEVEL FUNDED OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE DEPARTMENT.**

**CHAIRMAN CHABON MENTIONED THAT EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE UNDERWAY FOR COOPERATIVE SUPPORT BY SURROUNDING TOWNS IN LIGHT OF THE DEMANDS PLACED UPON THE DEPARTMENT BY THE RECENT ROUTE 102 HOME CHIMNEY FIRE.**

**CHUCK CARDILLO MENTIONED CAPITAL REQUESTS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT UPGRADES OF \$87,000 TO THE FIRE STATIONS HEATING SYSTEMS, EXTERIOR GARAGE DOORS, WINDOWS AND LIGHTING. HE ADDED THAT GRANTS UP TO \$65,000 ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE ELIGIBLE DOOR REPAIRS.**

- 11. THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THIS MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 4:45PM.**