Regular meeting of the Finance Committee held on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 beginning at 6:15 p.m. in the Selectmen's Conference Room, Town Hall.

Members present: Maureen Downing, Chairman, Eric Gregoire, Heidi Fogg, Susanne Boyea, Joan Cavallo, Richard Moskal, Raymond Yando, Anthony Alves and Beverly Tokarz

Ms. Collins and Ms. Villano were also present

First Order of Business: The Pledge of Allegiance

At this time the committee reorganized. The Chairman turned the meeting over to Anthony Alves who took the first call for any nominations for Chairperson of the committee.

Moved by Mr. Moskal, seconded by Ms. Boyea to nominate Eric Gregoire as Chairperson Vote: 5-4 in favor. Ms. Tokarz, Ms. Boyea, Ms. Downing and Mr. Yando opposed

Moved by Ms. Boyea, seconded by Ms. Fogg to nominate Maureen Downing as Chairperson Vote: 4-5 motion failed. Mr. Gregoire, Mr. Moskal, Mr. Alves, Ms. Cavallo and Ms. Fogg opposed

Mr. Gregoire was nominated as the Chairman of the Finance Committee

Moved by Ms. Fogg, seconded by Mr. Yando to nominate Maureen Downing as Vice Chairman Vote: 9-0 in favor

Ms. Downing was nominated as the Vice Chairman of the Finance Committee

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Mr. Yando to nominate Beverly Tokarz as Secretary Vote: 9-0 in favor

Ms. Tokarz was nominated as the Secretary of the Finance Committee

At this time the meeting was turned over to Ms. Downing, as Vice Chairman. Mr. Gregoire exited the meeting to attend a Capital Improvement meeting. He will return:

At this time the committee met with Chief Madera who is requesting a Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount of \$45,000 for Personnel Services to offset the overages of the Overtime-Regular line item. The Police Chapter 111F Injury Pay line item and the Dispatcher Salary-Permanent Part-Time line item have directly impacted the Patrolman Salaries Line Item 511165. He will also move funds in certain line items to make up the difference for the shortages. He has to offset the shortage to get through the end of the year, which is June 30th. The Chief went on to explain in detail his request and presented the 3 copies of the Reserve Fund Transfer forms.

Moved by Ms. Fogg, seconded by Mr. Yando to approve the Reserve Fund Transfer to the Police Department in the amount of \$45,000.

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Chief Madera informed the committee that Article 4 in the Special Town Meeting may be zero. That would be his goal. There are nine weeks left to the year end. At Town Meeting there will be 4 or 5 weeks remaining. He will have a better understanding of how much money he will need at that point.

Re-organization of the School Committee: Dr. Kelliher, Chairman, James Harrington, Vice Chairman, Jeff Lang, Secretary and Jacob Oliveira, member

R-organization of the Board of Health: Timothy Fontaine, Chairman, Elinor Kelliher, Secretary and Carolyn Rogowski, member

The DPW's Snow and Ice budget is overexpended. There is not an amount to date.

The Town Accountant sent out a memo requesting that committees designate a person to sign bills, payrolls, orders etc.

Moved by Ms. Fogg, seconded by Ms. Cavallo to designate Eric Gregoire to signs all bills, payroll and orders

Vote: 8-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Fogg, seconded by Ms. Cavallo to peruse and approve the Finance Committee Minutes of February 28, 2018

Vote: 6-0-2 in favor. Ms. Downing and Mr. Yando abstained

Moved by Ms. Fogg, seconded by Ms. Cavallo to peruse and approve the Finance Committee Minutes of April 4, 2018

Vote: 7-0-1 in favor. Ms. Tokarz abstained

Wote: 7-0-1 in favor. Ms. Tokarz abstained

Moved by Mr. Alves, seconded by Mr. Moskal to adjourn the Regular Meeting and go into the Budget Meeting at 6:48 p.m. Budget Meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Vote: 8-0 in favor

Ms. Downing gave the committee an update on what happened at the Selectmen's Meeting. The Budget Sub-committee met with them and presented a new budget package including a Free Cash analysis. The Board of Selectmen approved the budget at \$70,389,706. The first budget that came through was over the Levi limit and that is not allowed, so cuts were made, and they are now down to a budget that is difficult, but workable. They are looking at about a \$200.00 increase per household per year for a tax dollar increase. The rate gets finalized in October/November when the rest of the numbers are in. This is their best budget now. Ms. Downing explained the spreadsheets and the new numbers. There will be \$400,000 put into Stabilization. The Reserve Fund will be \$125,000 because of possible requests for funds during the year. The MGM money is in the budget and contingency money was pulled from the health insurance. It's hard to say what the estimated tax rate will be. Ms. Collins said that if you look at actual increases from Fy'17, it's almost 4% in the overall budget. If you look at actual increase from FY'18 it was a 5% increase and now it's under 2% with the adjustments. All the negotiated salary increases are included in the figures. The only increases above the parameters are Chapter 111F for insurance, Fringe Benefits and the General Interest and Debt.

Mr. Gregoire enters the meeting and takes over the meeting as Chairman

The departments that need reconsideration are the Treasurer, Information Technology, Fire Department, Building Inspector and School Department

The committee will have to Suspend the Rules to reconsider the committee's action on the above-mentioned departments.

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Boyea to Suspend the Rules to reconsider the action on the following departments: Town Treasurer, Information Technology, Fire Department, Building Department and the School Department

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Boyea to rescind action for the following departments: Town Treasurer, Information Technology, Fire Department, Building Inspector and School Department

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Ms. Downing gave a summary to Mr. Gregoire of the meeting between the Budget Subcommittee and the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Collins clarified that the overall budget approved was \$65,266,398 for the entire General Fund. The additional 2.3 million was for the Sewer Enterprise Funds and receipts reserved for appropriations. The total budget was \$67,581,820. The figures that Ms. Downing gave was an estimated figure from the tax recap that includes other items other than the budget.

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The committee will now vote on departmental budgets.

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Mr. Yando to approve the Moderator's budget at \$528 Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Cavallo to approve the Board of Selectinen's budget at \$326.546

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Finance Committee's budget at \$3,225

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Town Accountant's budget at \$185,906

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Mr. Alves to approve the Treasurers budget at \$259,445 Vote: 9-0 in favor

Regular and Budget Meeting of the Finance Committee dated April 25, 2018

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Collector's budget at \$255,420 Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Cavallo to approve the Town Counsel's budget at \$112,300

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Cavallo to approve Human Resources budget at \$109,935

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve Information Technology's budget at \$333,101

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Cavallo to approve the Conservation Commission's budget at \$32,809

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Cavallo to approve the Board of Assessors budget at \$1,656

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Public Buildings budget at \$650,456

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Property Liability Insurance budget at \$427,373

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Police Department's budget at \$3,667,926

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Dispatch budget at \$389,776 Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Fire Department's budget at \$2,825,514

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Building Inspector's budget at \$214,017

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Sealer of Weights & Measurers budget at \$4,234

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Regular and Budget Meeting of the Finance Committee dated April 25, 2018

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Animal Control's budget at \$23,650

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Safety Committee's budget at \$2,398

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Mr. Alves abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Department of Public Works budget at \$3,089,211

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Snow and Ice budget at \$240,000 Vote; 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Street & Traffic budget at \$281,000

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Hubbard Memorial Library budget at \$490,787

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Recreation Commission's budget at \$361,446

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Cavallo to approve the Historical Commission's budget at \$1,420

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Cavallo to approve the General Debt and Interest budget at \$2,340,880

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Fringe Benefits budget at \$14,779,090

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Cavallo to approve the School Department's budget at \$31,142,055

Vote: 8-0-1 in favor. Ms. Fogg abstained

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Sewer Enterprise Fund budget at \$1,387,594

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Golf Enterprise budget at \$676,060

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Moved by Ms. Downing, seconded by Ms. Fogg to approve the Cable Access TV budget at

\$251,768

Vote: 9-0 in favor

There will be a meeting scheduled before Town Meeting on May 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the High School. There are one or two more Articles that still must be approved. Mr. Gregoire doesn't see a need for a meeting next week or the following week.

Moved by Ms. Fogg, seconded by Ms. Downing to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Vote: 9-0 in favor

Ludlow Finance Committee

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