

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes

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MILLIS, MASS.
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Date: January 14, 2020

Present: Noonan, Kupcinkas, Kuphal, Cofske, Cooney

Absent: O'Connell, Kennedy

Meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Motioned by Kupcinkas, seconded by Noonan to accept the minutes of December 16, 2019 as written. Unanimous.

Kaye Peltier, Scott Despres and James Kelley were present at the meeting.

Annual Report from Blackstone Valley Tech was received

James Kelley: The draft of the School Department Budget was received by the Board of Selectmen and myself. They have two more meetings to discuss their budget and then they will have their Public Hearing. It reflects a 2.48% increase.

David Cofske: We were looking for a spreadsheet of the FY2020 budget with what has already been spent and what they have left for the rest of the year. We are also looking for a report on what was actually spent in FY2018 and FY2019. Jen was going to ask Andrew for this.

James Kelley: We are asking the departments to submit spreadsheets on what was spent. All of the budgets should be in by the end of the week. I will ask Andrew to run a report for you.

James Kelley: Non-union employees' raises are at 2% and we are level funding the non-utilities. I am waiting to hear on the Health Insurance. The other insurances are up 2-3%.

David Cofske: Are there any negotiations going on?

James Kelley: I would like to put cash in a Health Insurance Stabilization Account to help defray some of the increases coming up in the next couple of years. The increase could be as high as 12%. I am hoping that a couple of claims can be settled soon. The marijuana money will be available in December, but that money will be going into several Stabilization Accounts that have already been established.

David Cofske: Is there anything else that could be considered budget busters?

James Kelley: I am not happy with the Blackstone Valley Tech Budget. There is an additional \$110,000 in it. His office called to find out when the last day was to submit an article on the Warrant. He did not give us the courtesy of calling us to make an appointment to come in to discuss this before we got the call. I am predicting \$250,000 for new growth this year.

Albert Kupcinkas: I spoke to Warren Gardner, Tree Warden and he said that the new chipper is in. He is looking for a 550 dump truck to haul the chipper. The cost for the truck is \$85,000. It would save the

Town \$75,000 by having the DPW drive the truck plus additional savings for not hiring outside contractors.

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, February 24, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Motioned by Noonan, seconded by Kupcinskis to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Unanimous.

Albert P. Kupcinskis
Tim A. Murphy
David J. Goff
Stephen J. Noonan
Nicol L. Cooney