

MINUTES
COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2014
9:00 A.M. – Municipal Building / Council Chamber A

1. **Call to Order.** J. Holbrook, Finance Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. **Those Present.** Finance Committee Members present – E. Blaise, W. Donovan, and J. Holbrook; Others present were Thomas Hall, Town Manager, various Department Administrators and other staff.
3. **Approval of Minutes.** Motion by E. Blaise, seconded by W. Donovan, to move approval to accept the minutes of April 8, 2014, Finance Committee meeting.
Vote – 3 Yeas
4. **Discussion Items.**
 - a. 9:00 a.m. to 10:16 a.m. – School Department, budgets were presented by G. Entwistle, Superintendent, C. Caiazzo, School Board & C. Massengill, School Board, reviewed and discussed. No changes directed.
 - The Finance Committee requested the School Department provide additional information a list of the 41 previous positions not funded since 2010 and a list of positions filled to date and in what capacity.
 - The Finance Committee requested the School Department provide a breakdown of the components that make up the proposed \$1,934,780 of the FY2015 budget salary/wages & benefits.
 - The Finance Committee requested data pertaining to what is the percentage of fund balance between the Town and School? Ruth Porter, Finance Director for the Town will provide the data for the Finance Committee.

Without objection, Chairman Holbrook turned the floor over to Councilor Caterina with questions directed to the School Department on the proposed FY2015 Budget.

- Councilor Caterina requested the School Department provide what % of the School budget is unfunded mandates?
- Councilor Caterina requested the School Department provide what is the actual \$ per pupil cost? The School Department suggested those facts may be found on the web site.
- Councilor Caterina requested the School Department provide what % of the School Improvement line in the budget is for direct student contact?
- Councilor Caterina requested the School Department provide what % of the School Improvement line in the budget is used for teacher recertification and what % pertains to teacher evaluations?

- Councilor Caterina inquired if the School Department proposed enough funds in the FY2015 budget for the Charter School program? Councilor Caterina stated that at this time there are 60 homeschooled students who cost the School Department nothing. Should those 60 homeschooled students decide to avail themselves of the Virtual School services will the proposed budget suffice to cover the cost? Kate Bolton, School Finance Manager stated that the school had not budgeted for that particular scenario.

- b. 10:16 a.m. to 10:50 a.m. – MIS, budgets and capital projects (projects/equipment) were presented by Jenn Nitchman and discussed. No changes directed.
 - Councilor Blaise requested the model number of the Lenovo computers in the CIP Desktop Replacement Project being considered for purchase and the quote per device.

Without objection, Chairman Holbrook recessed the meeting at 10:50 a.m. The meeting was reconvened at 10:55 a.m.

- c. 10:55 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. – Community Services, budget and capital projects (projects/equipment) were presented by Bruce Gullifer, Director and discussed.
 - The Finance Committee requested Community Services provide information comparing fees charged for beach parking by surrounding state beaches to see where the Town fees fall in comparison. Secondly the Finance Committee requested that upon comparison Town fees for beach parking by out of town users be higher than what Town residents are charged.

 - The Finance Committee requested that Community Service’s portion, of funding for the proposed shared position between Community Services and Public Works be removed from the Higgins Beach line and placed in a separate budget line for clarification.

6. Future Agenda Items.

- **Final Budget Review - Recommendations**

- 7. Adjourn.** Motion by E. Blaise seconded by W. Donovan, to adjourn at 11:40 a.m.
Vote – 3 Yeas

Respectfully Submitted,

Colette A. Mathieson
Recording Secretary