

Town of Longmeadow
Minutes of the Finance Committee
January 13, 2021 - Teleconference

Finance Committee Members present Andrew Lam-Chair, Maury Garrett Jr.-Vice Chair, Eileen Morin-Clerk, William Welch, Donald E. Griffith and Armand Wray

Members Absent: Tom Dignazio

Visitors: Paul Pasterczyk-Finance Director, Jason DuCharme-Town Accountant, Peter Landon-Audit Committee Chair, Tom Shea

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of December 2, 2020 as presented, 5-0 in favor. (Donald Griffith was absent at the time of the vote).

There were no visitor comments.

Discussion:

Mr. Pasterczyk was asked for an update on the FY 2022 budget and provided the following updates:

- FY22 Retirement assessment estimated to be below FY21 level (due to fewer dispatchers and no daycare staffing)
- Anticipated growth of \$84,000 is expected in Chapter 70 funding
- Waiting on final budget from School Department and health insurance renewal premiums
- On target to meet a tax levy rate increase of 1.75% in the FY22 budget
- Anticipated capital budget of \$1.9M
- Debt Service increase of around \$500,000

Mr. Pasterczyk also provided the Committee with an update on the FY21 Budget as well:

- There have been no Reserve Fund requests as yet for the year
- Legal budget is overdrawn due to an increase in unexpected legal expenditures (chiefly due to mediation efforts regarding polluted grounds on the new DPW site). A warrant article to cover the deficit will be presented at the annual town meeting.
- Increase in Liability insurance due to new Senior Center and DPW building.
- Grant Money from the Cares Act state grant will be used to cover qualifying COVID related expenditures (the Town has spent \$1M of the \$1.4M grant and Congress extended the allowable expenditures to 12/31/21)
- Anticipated turn backs of approximately \$1M (mainly due to savings with crossing guards and daycare salaries)

Other:

Andrew Lam discussed drafting a letter to be sent to the Select Board and School Committee concerning the upcoming employee contract negotiations which occur once every three years and the effect they may have on the budget.

Armand Wray offered to be a liaison for the Finance Committee with the School Committee.

The Committee set its next meeting for February 10, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

The Committee voted to adjourn at 7:50 pm (6-0 in favor).

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Morin, Clerk