

Town of East Bridgewater Finance Committee

175 Central Street

East Bridgewater, MA 02333

Town Hall, 2nd floor Conference Room



**Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2020**

Members present: Crystal Hudson, Melanie Dean, Kevin Reilly, Laura Sebastyn, Joe Conley, Dan Picha

Member(s) absent: Dave Walsh

Selectman Liaison: None

Guest(s): Brian Noble

1. Meeting called to order at 6:37 pm by Laura Sebastyn
2. FY21 Budget Discussion
 - a. Presented current budget
 - b. Revenue are mostly unchanged since the last presentation
 - c. The selectman's budget shows an added line for an intern and special project consultants
 - d. We are short about \$400k before proposed adjustments
 - e. The reserve for Finance Committee is current \$135k, should be about .5% of the budget, or \$200k, we will propose possibly \$175k
 - f. We would like to see the DPW budget amounts that are projects requested from other departments
 - g. Health insurance is still an estimate but have adjusted it to 7%
 - h. Recreation commission is looking for an increase, but we would like to see more of a plan from them before we allocate more
 - i. Police department has revisited their salary lines since the police chief resigned but we need to keep it in mind that money could be tight in future years
 - j. Fire has reduced some lines and increased contribution from the ambulance fund
 - k. Discussion of how much to increase snow and ice budget
 - l. There are some lines on the water budget to be revisited
 - m. Historic commission has uncovered a trust fund in their name to help with tree removal
 - n. We should see what the arts lottery council has for an actual request
 - o. After discussed adjustments there will be about a \$87k deficit
 - p. Discussion that next year could be very tight, should start budget discussions right after town meeting, including pay scales, staffing, etc.
 - q. Discussed schedule for upcoming meetings
 - i. 3/17 - vote on articles

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- ii. 3/24 - vote operating budget
 - iii. 3/31 - capital update
 - iv. Then to legal and moderator for review
3. Vote on minutes
- a. Voted to approve the minute of 2/24/20
 - b. Motion - Reilly, Second - Picha
 - c. Vote - 5-0-1 (Conley abstained)
4. Vote to adjourn meeting at 7:25
- a. Motion to adjourn - Picha
 - b. Second - Hudson
 - c. Vote 6-0-0

Melanie Dean, Clerk