

## Town of East Bridgewater Finance Committee

175 Central Street  
East Bridgewater, MA 02333  
Town Hall

REC'D EB TOWN CLERK  
'23 FEB 16 AM 9:03



### Finance Committee Meeting Minutes Monday, February 6, 2023

**Members present:** Dan Picha, Dave Walsh, Karen Harhen, Lisa Allington, Karin Gilman, George Jouvin

**Member(s) absent:**

**Guest(s):** Timothy Harhen, Fire Chief; Paul O'Brien, Police Chief; Paula Wolfe, Director of Assessing; Lisa Lesogor, Board of Health Chair; Jeanmarie Joyce, Health Agent; Charlie Seelig, Town Administrator; Melanie Dean, Town Accountant; Susan Gillpatrick, Town Clerk

1. Meeting called to order at 5:40 PM by Dave Walsh, Finance Committee Vice Chair.
2. Request for Transfer from Reserve Fund – Tim Harhen, Fire Chief
  - a. Fire Chief Harhen and Police Chief O'Brien addressed the Finance Committee to request a transfer of funds in the amount of \$9,150.86 from the reserve fund to repair the existing microwave dish at town hall, which is used to communicate between emergency dispatchers and police/fire personnel operating in the field. This emergent request is due to concern for public safety, since the microwave dish is essential to emergency communication.
  - b. Karin Gilman moved to vote on the request, seconded by George Jouvin. Finance Committee voted 5-0 to approve request, with one abstention (K. Harhen).
3. Meeting Minutes from January 2023
  - a. Dave Walsh moved to accept the January 4, 2023 meeting minutes, seconded by Karen Harhen. Committee voted 4-0 to accept minutes as written, with two abstentions by members not in attendance (K. Gilman, L. Allington).
  - b. Karin Gilman moved to accept the January 18, 2023 meeting minutes, seconded by Karen Harhen. Committee voted 5-0 to accept minutes as written, with one abstention by member not in attendance (D. Walsh).
4. FY24 Budget Presentations

Department	Liaison(s)	Comments
Assessors Department	Dave Walsh, Lisa Allington	Level-funded budget
Board of Health	Dave Walsh, George Jouvin	As of Nov 2022, no money has been spent on MS4 line item (catch basin cleaning) and has not been done in several years due to COVID. Expected to take place this Spring/Summer.

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Board of Selectmen / Town Administrator	Karen Harhen	Charlie hopes to have final budget by end of week. Police and Fire deductibles for accident insurance will be moved under the insurance line for Board of Selectmen. Several union contracts are under negotiation and will affect many budgets once settled. Amount going into the General Reserve Fund should be lower in FY24 by approximately \$82k.
Town Accountant	Karen Harhen	Only increase will be department head salary due to completion of two certification exams (only budgeted for one)
Town Clerk	Dave Walsh	2% increase in department head salary; decrease in town meeting line (re: wardens) due to fewer elections; new equipment lease for copier \$2,840
Treasurer & Collector	Dave Walsh, Karin Gilman	Treasurer was unable to attend meeting and will be rescheduled to a later date
Veterans' Services	Dave Walsh	Veterans' Agent Chris Buckley was unable to attend meeting and will present at a later date. Dave Walsh provided the following update: no major budget increase but department may look to add a part-time position, potentially funded by passport revenue.

5. Other Department Budget Updates

- a. EB Cam is a new department which will need to go through the formal budget review process.
- b. Dan Picha and Lisa Allington are scheduled to meet with schools on Friday, February 10, 2023.

6. Motion to adjourn meeting was made at 6:23 PM by George Jouvin, seconded by Karen Harhen and approved 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Finance Committee

