Town of East Bridgewater Finance Committee

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175 Central Street
East Bridgewater, MA 02333
Town Hall



Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

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

Member(s) absent: Dave Walsh

Guest(s): Charlie Seelig, Town Administrator

- 1. Meeting called to order at 6:01 PM by Dan Picha, Finance Committee Chair.
- 2. Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 8th but there will not be any Finance committee-related budget items, which will instead be addressed at an adjourned separate June 5th Town Meeting at 7 pm.
- 3. Lisa Allington made a motion to approve meeting minutes from April 4, 2023, Dan Picha seconded. Committee voted 3 in favor, 2 abstained (absent from meeting)
- 4. Reserve transfer request for \$6,000 was submitted by Charlie Seelig, Town Administrator, to fund an annual evidence audit by an outside firm, which is necessary due to unexpected leave of absence by current Police Chief. Motion to approve transfer was made Karen Harhen, seconded by Lisa Allington; Approved 5-0.
- 5. Reserve transfer request for \$4,389.05 was submitted by Charlie Seelig, Town Administrator to pay grievance settlement by clerical union related to incorrect overtime payment for several departments. Motion to approve was made by Karin Gilman, seconded by George Jouvin; Approved 5-0.
- 6. Budget Update: still short \$300k+ biggest issue is assessment by Plymouth County Retirement Fund assessment, which was unexpected and will continue for the next 5-6 years. Will work on plan to address in the future to avoid budget shortfalls. Departments have revisited their budgets and are working on making concessions, including delaying anything that is not absolutely necessary at this time. Committee will plan to meet again on May 15th to review updated budgets. Increases due to contracts that are being negotiated in the next few weeks will be funded using funds from Free Cash, as agreed upon last year. Dan stated that if we still do not have concrete budget information from the state, we might need to have multiple budgets to cover different budget scenarios.

7. Town Election is Saturday, June 13, 2023 from 11 am until 7 pm at the Junior/Senior High School.

8. Motion to adjourn meeting was made at 6:21 by Lisa Allington; seconded by Karin Gilman; Approved 5-0.

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