

# **Town of East Bridgewater Finance Committee**

175 Central Street

East Bridgewater, MA 02333

Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room



## **Finance Committee Meeting Minutes March 12, 2019**

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**Members present:** Michele Ahern, Dan Picha, Melanie Dean, Laura Sebastyn, Jennifer Kitchenham

**Member(s) absent:** Crystal Hudson

**Selectman Liaison:**

**Guest(s):** Chief Scott Allen, Deputy. Chief Paul O'Brien

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1. Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm by Michele Ahern
2. Budget Presentation Police Department
  - a. Reviewed the Power Point presentation
  - b. Budget review
    - i. The Chief submitted four budgets for the committee to review; a 2.01%, a 2.05%, a 4.59%, and a 4.67% which represents his real needs budget. The various budgets represent various cut scenarios from the real needs budget.
3. Open Discussion
  - a. Michele handed out the school's certified budget which was received by the BOS.
  - b. A new library grid was presented. The grids all need to be reviewed and discussed at next meeting.
  - c. Michele passed out a letter that the BOS received from legal counsel responding to questions about the school committee budget. For the committee to read at their leisure.
  - d. The BOS received a letter of interest from a resident to sit on the Finance Committee. Discussed needing to understand the timing of filling the open position. It was discussed that maybe it would make sense to hold off on a new member until next year so that four members are not on the same term cycle. We will bring the candidate into a meeting in the future.
  - e. Southeast Regional has requested for us to come to the BOS meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - f. As of right now there are not set dates for the department heads to meet with the BOS.
  - g. Michele reviewed
    - i. Next Monday School Committee 3/19/2019
    - ii. Melanie is going to set up an online calendar for us to share
    - iii. Need to reschedule the Monday meeting we missed for snow – aim to get everyone for next Monday the 18<sup>th</sup>. For a 6:30 start.
    - iv. Michele gave the committee and update on the personnel board and bylaws and which types of employees fall under that board.
    - v. Next meeting for us to discuss budgets will be on the 26<sup>th</sup> at 7.

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- vi. Michele would like to propose that the finance committee send the BOS a letter asking for the Town of EB to adopt the local meals tax.
  - vii. Need to discuss how the town is going to look at the limited revenue coming in and the expenses that are continuously going up
  - viii. Melanie asked if there is a current bond letter available. Michele will inquire.
  - ix. Capital committee is meeting every week (meeting tomorrow night). Meeting with Fire Dept tomorrow night. George Samia met with the committee and informed them that there is a possibility that there may not be the funds to do any capital this year.
  - x. Discuss the options and possibilities of economic development – starting the discussion and possibly a subcommittee.
4. Next Finance Committee Meeting
- i. The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm and will be the School presentation.
5. Meeting Adjournment
- Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm***  
***M/S Picha/Dean Motion Passed 5-0-0***

Laura Sebastyn, Clerk