

Town of East Bridgewater Finance Committee

175 Central Street

East Bridgewater, MA 02333

Town Hall, 2nd floor Conference Room



Finance Committee Meeting Minutes April 14, 2020 - Virtual Meeting

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, Melissa Morrissey

1. Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm by Laura Sebastyn
2. FY21 Budget Discussion
 - a. Reviewed all budget changes and budget balance
 - b. Some budget changes this past week - DPW enterprise account discrepancy that worked in our favor - revenue was updated with for software and spreadsheet glitch - this was reviewed with town accountant, gave us about \$100k - put to snow and ice and finance committee
 - c. Warrant updates - STM article 1 will need to be voted again, STM article 5 fire truck will only be in ATM, water fund will be number 6 for STM, money unused from borrowing and will be moved to new article for water projects (fire truck won't get purchased in time for year end so doesn't need to go on STM) - also noted that homeless transportation won't be as high as it was voted because of COVID, article 1 is going up to \$212k for vacation buyback - needs to be voted
 - d. ATM meetings - the article to vote compensation of board and officials was moved to another article, hope to vote remaining items next week with a "final draft" of the articles, would like to get us hard copies for review and vote it all next meeting
3. Discussion of COVID effects
 - a. What if situations - we won't know local receipts or state aid changes for a while but Brian is thinking of contingency plans, Brian updated with COVID expenses - CARES grant of approximately \$19k that will help with medical expenses incurred, we think will get some money back on our COVID expenses at some point since it was declared a state of emergency - won't know when or how much - we have not deficit spent because of COVID yet - we can deficit spend if needed and fund within 3 years due to state of emergency
 - b. Most recent budget projects all state aid level with last year except for school aid
 - c. We would vote but hold on articles - transfer to stabilization \$537k - could also hold on electrical improvements - \$400k and road repairs - \$500k, hold back health insurance

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- mitigation spending, or could hold on police cruisers or central school sewer connection - should wait about 6 months into the fiscal year
- d. We will encourage the school to talk to FinCom when they find out their savings due to COVID
 - e. Could find a million dollars in capital budget if we needed to, but couldn't find a million dollars in operating budget, wouldn't want to layoff or ask unions for a 0% year, also wouldn't want to touch stabilization if we don't have to
4. Miscellaneous items
- a. Last night's windstorm caused about \$10k in damage to the roof at Town Hall
 - b. Next meeting will be 4/21 at 6pm - virtual
 - c. Materials will be emailed out before next meeting
5. Vote on minutes
- a. Vote on minute of 3/31/20
 - b. Motion - Reilly
 - c. Second - Hudson
 - d. Vote - 6-0-0
6. Vote to adjourn meeting at 6:41
- a. Motion to adjourn - Conley
 - b. Second - Hudson
 - c. Vote 6-0-0

Melanie Dean, Clerk