February 16, 2017

Town of West Bridgewater

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting

The meeting convened at 6:30 P.M. in the Selectmen’s Meeting Room in the West Bridgewater Town Hall.

Committee Members Present: Chairman Ms. Meredith Anderson, Vice Chairman Ms. Jeri Screnci, Ms. Janice Fox, Mr. Maurice McCarthy, Ms. Cheryl Adams, Ms. Jennifer Clark –Croes. J.P. Waller

Also present was Town Administrator David Gagne.

Chairman Anderson advised that the committee would be listening to and discussing Budget Hearings.

Mr. Chris Iannitelli, Forestry Superintendent & Tree Warden entered the meeting to discuss the transfer request of $10,000.00 into tree trimming and removals and an additional $2,500.00 for police details for the trimming and removals. Mr Iannitelli advised that there was an increase in tree maintenance this year due to the severe drought as well as gypsy and winter moths.

Ms. Anderson asked the committee if they had any questions for Mr. Iannitelli.

Mr. McCarthy made a motion to approve the transfer request, Ms. Adams seconded this request and the committee voted unanimously in favor of both requests.

Mr. Iannitelli exited the meeting.

Mr. John Duggan, Treasurer Collector entered the meeting to first present budget 1450 (Treasurer Collector). Mr. Duggan started by giving a brief description of the budget and noted that other than contractual increases all items were kept as level funded as possible.

Ms. Anderson questioned the increase in the “data processing server”, and Mr. Duggan explained that this was due to teachers negotiating to receive bi-weekly paychecks over the summer.

Mr. Duggan also discussed the option of selling transfer station stickers at the transfer station for a couple of weeks before Christmas to help convenience the taxpayers.

Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any additional questions.
Mr. Duggan then presented budget 7100 (Debt-Principal). Mr. Duggan gave a brief description of the budget and discussed a few changes including the increase in the Bond Anticipation Notes. The committee then discussed how the overall debt to revenue in town was very good.

Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any further questions.

Mr. Duggan then presented budget 7510 (Debt-Interest). Mr. Duggan gave a brief description of the budget and discussed how the interest in the Middle/Senior High School is going down. The committee briefly discussed this budget and Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any further questions.

Mr. Duggan then presented budget 7520 (Short Term Interest). Mr. Duggan gave a brief description of the budget. The committee then discussed this budget and Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any further questions for Mr. Duggan.

Mr. Duggan exited the meeting.

Superintendent of the Water Department Wayne Parks and Water Commissioner Hugh Hurley entered the meeting to present budget 4500 (Water Department). Mr. Parks gave a brief description of the budget and compared it to previous years. He explained that there are changes in the budget due to possible contractual raises of 2.5%. He also discussed the need for proper licenses for employees and the costs of these licenses.

Mr. Parks explained how the vehicle repair and maintenance line was increased because the trucks are older, and repairs are higher. The data processing line increased due to billing going from bi-yearly to quarterly.

Mr. Parks went on to discuss how 2016 focused on replacing meters. He stated that there are about one hundred meters left to replace, and once that is complete the department would be moving on to the hydrants.

Ms. Anderson felt as though there were still outstanding points to discuss, but due to the lack of time the committee would revisit this budget at a future meeting.

Mr. Parks and Mr. Hurley exited the meeting.

Conservation Agent John Delano entered the meeting to first present budget 1710 (Conservation Commission).

Mr. McCarthy disclosed that he would recuse himself from this presentation.

Mr. Delano stated that the major change in this budget was equipment replacement. The commission would like to take $1,500.00 from the storm water committee and transfer it to the
Conservation committee. They are calling this line item “equipment” because they anticipate with testing and monitoring the water, new water testing equipment will be necessary.

Mr. Delano went on to explain that the rest of the changes in the budget are salary and contractual changes.

Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any questions.

Mr. Delano then presented budget 1750 (Open Space Committee). Mr. Delano explained that there were no changes in this budget, other then hoping to have these meetings all year round.

Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any questions.

Mr. Delano exited the meeting.

Mr. John Cruz, Chairman of the Board of Health entered the meeting to first present budget 1950 (Wastewater Treatment Facilities.) Mr. Cruz noted that there were no changes to this budget.

Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any questions.

Mr. Cruz then presented budget 5110 (Board of Health). Mr. Cruz gave a brief description of the budget and advised that the increases are contractual based on the health agent receiving a 3% increase and the clerical position receiving a 2.5% increase.

Ms. Anderson asked what the plans were for the nursing services moving forward. Mr. Cruz advised that they planned on continuing with the nurse on staff. Ms. Anderson went on to ask how many people were serviced. Mr. Cruz did not the exact amount but commented that the longer the nurse is here and the service is available, word will travel. Mr. Cruz went on to state that they anticipated using the full budget.

Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any further questions.

Mr. Cruz exited the meeting.

Mr. David Gagne then presented budget 1720 (Agricultural Commission). Mr. Gagne explained that this budget was $600 and level funded.

Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any questions.

Mr. Gagne then presented budget 2750 (Womansplace Crisis Center). Mr. Gagne explained that this budget was level funded and there were no additional expenses.

Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any questions.
Mr. Gagne then presented budget 5270 (Brockton Area ARC). Mr. Gagne explained that this was a $250.00 budget and the goal of this budget was for the city of Brockton to help families with disabilities.

Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any questions.

Mr. Gagne then presented budget 5280 (Old Colony Hospice Care). Mr. Gagne explained that this was a $2,000.00 budget and there were no additional expenses.

Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any questions.

Mr. Gagne then presented budget 6600 (Plymouth County Extension Services). Mr. Gagne explained that this was a $200.00 budget and there were no additional expenses.

Ms. Anderson asked if anyone had any additional business to bring before the board.

Mr. McCarthy then made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Screnci seconded and the committee voted unanimously in favor of this motion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin E. Leahy, Secretary

Enclosures:
Exhibit A, Finance Committee Open Session Agenda
Exhibit B, FY 2018 Debt Service