



TOWN HALL | 39 SOUTH STREET | HINSDALE, MA | 01235 | 413-655-2300

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES / December 6, 2018 at 6:15pm

Assessors' Office

posted 12:35pm on 1/9/2019

Members

Shaun Galliher
Mary Rice
Russ Parks
Bonnie Conner
Healthier Brown
Chris Pike
Dick Scialabba

Absent

Earl Peck
Ray Bolduc

Other

Bob Graves, Town Administrator
Bill Pike

The meeting was opened at 7:02 pm.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the November 1, 2018 meeting as written. The motion passed with one abstaining. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the November 13, 2018 meeting as written, the motion passed with two abstaining.

The Committee went over specific items on the expense report with Bob Graves providing answers to the questions. Some of the issues discussed were as follows;

Conservation salary account, Infrastructure Engineering, Old Dalton Road Culvert, Middlefield Road issue, IT account, Industrial Washer for Fire Department, Building Inspector software, Highway Department Winter Road Maintenance, Old Town Hall Feasibility Study.

Chairman Galliher reported that after monies appropriated at the Special Town Meeting of November 28, 2018, there is a balance of \$336,832.00 left in Free Cash.

Bob Graves reported that the Real Estate Tax bills have been mailed.

Bob Graves reported that the Auditors were here and although he has not yet received the report, they were very pleased with the information they asked for. Diane Sturtevant, Treasurer/Collector was a big help in this process.

He also reported that the Water Sewer Commissioners voted to increase the non-residential EDU's for Water and Sewer, for the next billing period beginning in January 2019. The adjusted figure for the EDU's was based on a recommendation from David Prickett Consulting, LLC. The same non-residential customers are already paying for the usage.

The Committee discussed a possible purchase of the Lions Club property at Plunkett Lake. The discussion included liability issues and parking problems.

Bob Graves reported that the Solar project is now "off the table" due to the second round of rules from the company that was going to provide it.

Bob Graves reported that Kathe Warden will be leaving and he has hired Lynne Baumgartner. Kathe and Lynn will work together for a transition period of two weeks.

Bob Graves reported that the Saturday Budget Hearing meeting will be on March 9, 2019. It is expected to begin at 8:30 am and go till about 2:30 pm. He will be requesting department budget requests to be submitted by February 15th to 20th and department heads should be prepared to defend their submissions. At our next meeting Bob and Shaun would like all ideas from the Committee members on how to make this budget process better.

The next regular meeting of this Committee is Thursday, January 3, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall Community Room. A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 8:23 pm. The motion passed unanimously.