



TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN
Finance Committee
Lawrence Memorial Hall
2 Jabish Street, P.O. Box 670
Belchertown, Massachusetts 01007



Edward Boscher, Chairman
Melissa Hurst, Vice-Chairman
Laurie Shea, Clerk
Lynne Raymer
Steven Rose

Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, November 7, 2016
Time: 7:00pm
Location: Lawrence Memorial Hall
Present: Edward Boscher, Melissa Hurst, Lynne Raymer, Steven Rose, Laurie Shea
Guest(s): Ann Fenton, Max Boch

- Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

Revenue Committee Update

- Ms. Raymer provided an update as to the work of the Revenue Committee.
- Rough estimates of revenue and level service - \$1 million deficit.
 - a. Last budget season was \$1.8 million deficit, then School "needs" removed, leaving a \$1 million deficit that was partially addressed through Free Cash and Stabilization.
 - b. With level services, needs, mandatory charges, capital needs, and assuming a similar budget portion for Pathfinder, there is a \$6 million deficit for preliminary FY18.
- Schools
 - a. \$28.6 million level service budget
 - b. \$700k needs budget
 - c. \$1 million capital for items not included in FY17 and a five year capital plan
- Town
 - a. \$13.2 level service budget
 - b. \$239k needs budget
 - c. \$2.4 million capital for FY18
- Mandatory charges estimated at \$6.9 million, including Pathfinder
- Deficit does not take changes from the Commonwealth into account

- Revenue includes conservative Cherry Sheet estimates - \$16.6 assuming flat and offsets
- Estimates do not include funding of OPEB
- Revenue Committee meeting in two weeks
 - a. Tasked with scrubbing the lists to determine more definite numbers
 - b. Grouping true needs into different option groups
- There is a discussion about doing a debt exclusion for capital items
- Plan to disclose the burden of each option to the taxpayers

YTD Budget Review

- Mr. Boscher stated that heard that the Schools had \$10k left from FY16 that was not returned to the town.
- There has been no meeting with the School Finance/Budget Subcommittee.
- Discussion of financial forecasting which may help voters understand the budget.

School Pilot Program Update

- Ms. Shea stated that the next meeting for the Pilot Program is in January 2017.
- She indicated that all are still acclimating to the program.

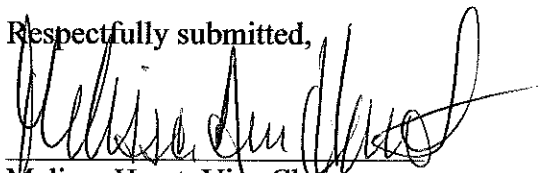
New Business

- Animal Control requested \$4,000 from the Reserve Fund.
 - a. BARC has raised and spent \$50k towards the new Animal Control facility and they are still raising funds. Ultimate goal is \$75k raised.
 - b. Max Boch and Ann Fenton explained that the \$4k expenditure was unanticipated because they had planned to use power from an existing pole, but this was not possible.
- Ms. Raymer moved for \$4k to be transferred from the Reserve Fund to finish the interior of the new Animal Control facility because obtaining power from the grip had to be paid for which was not included in the prior estimate. Mr. Rose seconded. Committee voted 5-0-0, approving this transfer.
- Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 7pm.

Adjournment


- Ms. Raymer moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Rose seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

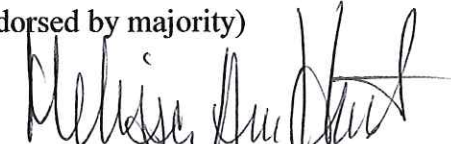


Melissa Hurst, Vice Chair


FINCOM Town of Belchertown (Endorsed by majority)



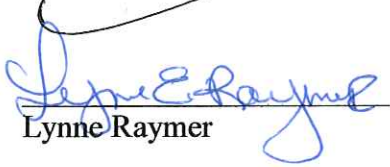
Edward Boscher, Chair



Melissa Hurst, Vice Chair



Laurie Shea, Clerk



Lynne Raymer



Steven Rose

