



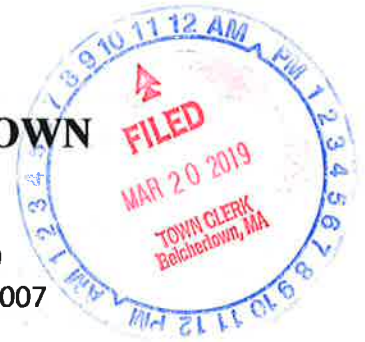
## TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN

### Finance Committee

Lawrence Memorial Hall

2 Jabish Street, P.O. Box 670

Belchertown, Massachusetts 01007



Lynne Raymer, Chairman  
Steven Rose, Vice-Chairman  
Ronald Aponte, Clerk  
Melissa Hurst  
Laurie Shea

### Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2019  
Time: 6:30pm  
Location: Lawrence Memorial Hall  
Present: Melissa Hurst, Lynne Raymer, Steven Rose, Laurie Shea  
Guest(s): Gary Brougham, Jill Panto, Brenda Aldrich, Archie Archible, Gail Grammarosa, Nicholas O'Connor, Chief Ted Bock, Chief Chris Pronovost, Lt. Kevin Pacunas, Steve Williams

- Meeting called to order at 6:31pm.

#### Fiscal Year 2020 Budget – Fire Department

- Chief Bock reviewed proposed FY20 budget for the Fire Department. Reviewed budget lines with unusual increases, including for EMS billing and supplies (medical supply company changed hands and new company has higher costs). The Department is experiencing increased call volumes and frequently ambulances are being sent out back to back on calls.
- Chief Bock requested two additional paramedic/firefighters to staff two ambulances 24/7.
- The new fire truck is on order. New air packs have been received and staff training is complete.
- Order of priority for capital items – 1) Replace cab/chassis, see budget memo for remaining priorities. Chief Bock indicated that at some point, the Fire Department will need a third ambulance upgraded to Advanced Life Support. If done through normal replacement schedule, this would not occur for three years.

#### Fiscal Year 2020 Budget – Police Department

- Chief Pronovost described success in obtaining new grants this year, as well as continued multiyear grants. Chief Pronovost also apprised all of accreditation.
- Discussion of trainings done on site, which does provide savings as there are free training slots.
- Chief Pronovost indicated that the incidents, traffic and otherwise, have been more serious and/or required additional follow up. There is a partnership in place with BHN.

- Discussion of staffing and the reduction in the auxiliary police force as these officers have moved on or become part time officers. Chief Pronovost indicated that there is a movement at the state level towards eliminating the part-time police academies.
- Discussion of need to relocate the radio antenna from former Franklin School to May Farm.
- Discussion of cost of physicals for all officers.
- Chief Pronovost requested additional funding to cover additional staff for a new officer to attend the upcoming police academy classes prior to an upcoming retirement.
- Order of priority for capital items – 1) Portable radios (\$24,000), 2) Cruiser cameras (\$6,500).

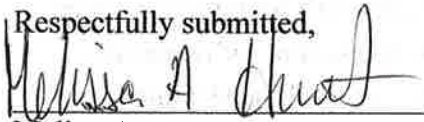
**Fiscal Year 2020 Budget – Department of Public Works**

- Mr. Williams presented DPW proposed budget.
- Family Center renovation, repair of water damage at Freedom Center, and police station roof repair are complete.
- Discussion of substantial grants obtained by DPW during the year.
- Discussion of need to renew the contract for transfer of recyclable materials and Mr. Williams expects additional costs.
- Extensive discussion of Stormwater requirements on budget. As these are required per the EPA, new costs for engineering (\$52,000), sweeping (\$65,000), and catch basin cleaning (\$65,000) are included in the proposed budget (other new or additional requests not included in budget at this time). Discussion of possible stormwater utility.
- Order of priority for capital items for Buildings/Grounds – 1) Electrical metering for Berkshire (\$20,000), 2) Smoke detector replacement (\$18,000), 3) Skidsteer/loader (\$60,000).
- Order of priority for capital items for Highway – 1) Hot Box (\$6,500), 2) Engine Scanner (\$15,000), 3) Sand shed (\$84,000).


**Other**

- Reviewed mail, including draft Social Media Policy.
- Special and Annual Town Meetings scheduled for May 13, 2019.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:02pm.

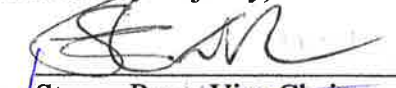
Respectfully submitted,

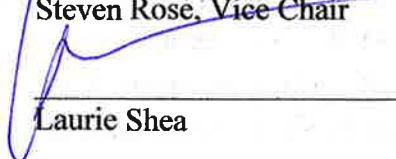
  
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 Melissa Hurst

FINCOM Town of Belchertown (Endorsed by majority)

  
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 Lynne Raymer, Chair

  
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 Melissa Hurst

  
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 Steven Rose, Vice Chair

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Laurie Shea

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 Ronald Aponte, Clerk