

TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN

Finance Committee

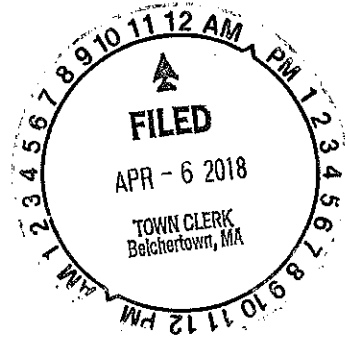
Lawrence Memorial Hall

2 Jabish Street, P.O. Box 670

Belchertown, Massachusetts 01007



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



Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2018
Time: 7:00pm
Location: Lawrence Memorial Hall
Present: Steven Rose, Lynne Raymer, Melissa Hurst, Edward Boscher, Laurie Shea
Guest(s): Ron Aponte, Bill Barnett, Brenda Aldrich, Nick O'Connor, Jill Panto, Karol Coffin, Mike Knapp
Board of Health – Judy Metcalf
Public Works – Steve Williams
Fire Department – Chief Bock

- Meeting called to order at 7:02pm.

Board of Health

- Discussion that Belchertown lost public health nurse coverage when this had been provided by Wing Memorial Hospital previously.
- Discussion of proposal to share a public health nurse between Belchertown and Ware. Ms. Metcalf is a sanitary engineer and the nurse needs to have a medical background. Reviewed job description, suggested hours, rate of pay, and pension implications.
- Review of proposed Board of Health budget.

Public Works

- Discussion of progress this year, including grants related to stormwater study and improvements. Also Mr. Williams provided updates related to the timber harvesting projects.
- Discussion that increases in Enterprise Funds are budget neutral.

- Discussion that while the Town is participating in an appeal as to the stormwater mandates, this does not apply to cleaning of catchbasins or to street sweeping. The proposal is for \$130,000 increase, but would need \$190,000 to fully fund.
- Mr. Williams indicated that the best prediction on the snow removal costs was that the Town is about \$30,000 over budget and could have another \$50,000-90,000 more as each storm costs about \$13,000 for snow removal.
- Discussion of request or three new positions.
- Review of proposed Department of Public Works budget.

Fire Department

- Discussion of breathing apparatus that must be replaced, as well as Chief Bock's report that a ladder truck is needed.
- Discussion of request for additional staff as there are now a lot of calls to surrounding towns for mutual aid. Estimate of cost for a new firefighter/paramedic position is about \$60,500.
- Review of proposed Fire Department budget.

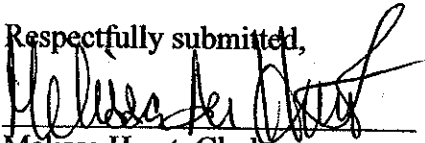
Miscellaneous Matters

- Mr. Rose discussed School level service proposal (increase of about \$810,000) and needs budget (\$977,000), and this is without additional suggested positions for outreach staff and an adjustment counselor in the wake of recent school shootings. Ms. Coffin and Mr. Knapp indicated that with one salary of \$57,000 and the needs budget, they could possibly get both proposed positions.
- Discussion of yet unknown budget items, such as final snow overages, Pathfinder cost, etc.
- Scheduled next meeting for 3/19/18.

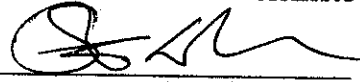
Adjournments

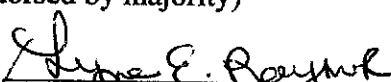
- Meeting adjourned at 9:08pm.

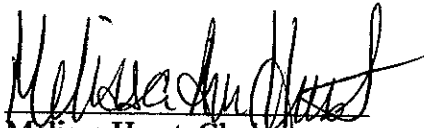
Respectfully submitted,



Melissa Hurst, Clerk

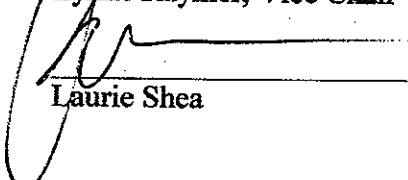
FINCOM Town of Belchertown (Endorsed by majority)


Steven Rose, Chair


Lynne Raymer, Vice Chair


Melissa Hurst, Clerk


Edward Boscher


Laurie Shea