Town of Uxbridge, Massachusetts Finance Committee Meeting Minutes



PEOT CMS TOWN CLERY 2029 JUN 1 449:23

Meeting/ Date: Thursday, April 11, 2023

Place: Town Hall BOS Meeting Room and Remote Via Zoom

Attendance: Present or Absent

Jim Hogan (JH) - Chair	P	Richard Michel (RM)	Α	Art Poisson (AP)	P
Jennifer Kurzon (JK) - Vice Chair & Clerk	P*	Bob White (BW)	A	David Moriarty (DM)	P
Claudia Cataldo (CC)	P				

^{*}Present at 6:08

Call to Order: 6:00 pm

JH Does Roll Call of all FinCom Members as indicated above

Board of Selectmen ("BOS") Chair Butler Opens Their Meeting

Roll Call by Chair Butler

Present-Peter Demers(PD), Steve Mandile(SM), Jeff Shaw(JS), Brian Butler(BB)

Flag-Pledge of Allegiance

Town Manager ("TM") Steven Sette is present

Motion	Re-Open Public Hearing-2023 Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles					
1st	DM 2nd AP Vote 4-0-0					
Vote: Yea: DM, CC, AP, JH		Abstain: N	V/A			

1. Public Hearing – Spring Annual Town Meeting Tuesday May 9th 2023 - Warrant Articles

a. Article 21: Citizens Petition: Change "Board of Selectmen" to "Select Board" Presentation by Sponsor Tina Ryan; Discussion of background and what Petition represents. Indicates more than 50% of Worcester County has adopted gender neutral verbiage; Discussion of the email from Town Counsel re whether Charter and Bylaw Changes can be completed at 2023 SATM; Discussion of how to go forward-BOS wants to go forward with Article 18 to

change the Charter and indicates Article 21 should go forward to see if it can pass; Further discussion re changing language to conform with verbiage in BOS change to Charter

- b. Article 3: FY2024 Town Budget-TM Power Point Presentation on General Overview and Highlights on Zoom screen: TM presents all budgets 1-3 below via budget emailed to FinCom and BOS & presented on Zoom Screen. Revenue continues to grow & projected to continue for next 5 years 58.3 million dollars vs 54 million in expenditures; This represents a \$100K increase in expected revenues; Seeking to make upgrades in School Dept and future infrastructure improvement; Revenue engaging proactively; How to effectively use surplus; Personnel adjustments in Fire Dept including new hires: Police cruisers - 2 have been put into operating budget instead of capital; DPW - 2 new personnel to reduce 3rd party plowers during Winter; DPW regular increases to hourly personnel and increases to salaried employees: Creation of HR Dept is in place-resulting in restaffing of treasurer/collector where the HR personnel were previously employed; Town Clerk's budget increase to allow for 1 new PT person: Building/Planning Dept increase with addition of shared planning person, offset by Mendon and Millville; Economic Dev. position has been eliminated so that will be taken over by PB; Regional Planner offset; BOH salary increase commensurate with hours worked; Health care has changed MIA; Library provides stellar services-building investments to current building HVAC; Water/Sewer/Cable Enterprise Funds have increased just minimally; Federal fundinggrant for 1.325 million
- 1. Police Budget-Overview presented; Every two years replace the vehicles that are on the revolving system that is why coming out of operating budget vs capital;

PD recommends getting all the contracts personnel, health etc. on the Town's website; TM indicates this will be done; Discussion re stipends

- 2. Animal Control- 6 Towns now-Uxbridge runs the program; This is the 2nd year. First year got 100K from State. 10K is for Chief who receives a Stipend for his work on program as agreed to by all 6 Towns-The entire budget is split 6 ways by a per capita model; Uxbridge 30%=\$67,632; Blackstone 19.3%=\$43,974; Douglas 18.9=\$42,889; Hopedale 12.6%=\$28,734; Mendon 13%=\$29,742; Millville 6.6%=\$15,157; Total split of entire Budget amount of 228K; Uxbridge used to be part of a 3 Town Agreement, but that was sometime before the FY2020 budget shown on budget docs; Discussion of charging a further fee to each of the Town's for the administrative work Uxbridge has to complete in performance of this program
- 3. Board of Health (BOH)-Increase of 15% reflecting primarily the increase in hours for the Director and Inspector

Discussion of Reserve Fund ("RF") which is currently is 55K; Rolls back into free cash if not used; PD stated hadn't used RF in over 5 years. If we have a budget increase it is better to have in there vs not.

Motion	Continue Public Hearing to Wed. 4/12/23 at 6:00 pm					
1st	JK 2nd CC Vote 5-0-0					
Vote: Yea: DM, CC, AP, JK, JH Abstain: N/A						

BOS Adjourns its meeting via Mandile Motion and PD second, hand count vote all in favor,-Brian Butler, Peter Demers, Steve Mandile & Jeff Shaw

2. New business to be set for discussion at next FinCom Meeting: JK discussed having DPW come back to address prior Articles 8 & 12-Agreed JK will email TM with outstanding questions

Motion	Adjourn FinCom Meeting at 7:00 pm				
1st	JK	2nd CC Vote 5-0-0			
Vote: Yea: DM, CC, AP, JK, JH Abstain: N/A					

Video replay of meeting available at: https://archive.uxbridgetv.org/Video/8529



Finance Committee Approval Sheet

Meeting Date: 2023	Place:
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Name	Signature	Date
Jim Hogan, Chair	68/m	5/24/23
Jennifer Kurzon, Vice Chair/Clerk	Jen	5/24/23
Richard Michel	Not Present	
Bob White	Not Present	
Art Poisson		
Claudia Cataldo	Clauder M Catalos	5/22/23
David Moriarty		

Vote to approve meeting minutes of April 11, 2023 was taken by roll call vote on

Motion	Approve Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2023				
1st		2nd		Vote	
Roll Call Vote:	Abstain:				