

TOWN OF GILL

M A S S A C H U S E T T S



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SELECTBOARD & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 26, 2018

Called to Order: The Selectboard was called to order at 6:03 PM. The Finance Committee was called to order at 6:03 PM.

Selectboard Members Present: Randy Crochier, John Ward, Greg Snedeker Members Absent: None

Finance Committee Members Present: , Claire Chang, Sandy Brown, Timmie Smith, Ronnie LaChance, Tupper Brown Members Absent: None

Others Present: Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant

Review of Minutes: There were no minutes ready for review.

Review of FY19 Budget Requests:

4.3 Veterans Services & Veterans Benefits – The FY19 assessment from the Veterans' District increased by \$50 (1.9%) from \$2,615 to \$2,665. Veterans Benefits are level funded at \$5,000.

6.2 Mariamante Loan: The FY19 loan payment increased by \$285 (2%) from \$14,651 to \$14,936 due to an increase in the one-year interest rate from 0.88% to 1.31%. After the FY19 payment is made, there will be 6 years remaining on the loan. This loan is a debt exclusion.

6.3 Safety Complex Roof Loan: FY19 is the final year of this 3-year loan. The principal is \$15,730 and the interest is \$299. This loan is a debt exclusion.

6.5 Franklin Regional Retirement System: There is an \$8,400 increase (9%) in the retirement assessment, from \$93,699 (FY18 actual) to \$102,099 (FY19 requested). Most of the increase, \$5,026, is from an across-the-board increase to all members of the retirement system due to the longer life expectancies of retirees. Another \$1,626 of the FY19 increase is due to the relative shift in salaries of all the members groups – Gill's percentage of the total salaries increased slightly from FY18 to FY19. The balance of the increase, \$1,748, is a difference in actual vs. budgeted. The FY19 budget request is for the full assessment, while the FY18 actual amount reflects a \$1,748 discount earned by paying the assessment in a single payment prior to July 1st.

6.6 Health Insurance & OPEB: Overall, the health insurance budget for FY19 is up steeply – 25% - from \$93,750 to \$117,183. There are several causes: rate increases between 3.3 – 4.7% for employee health insurance and 1.7% for Medex (retirees over the age of 65), one new retiree (David Hastings/Police Dept), one expected retiree (Ed Ambo/Highway Dept), and a projected Medex increase of 5.6% for the last 6 months of FY19. The budget includes family plan coverage for the expected new hire in the Highway Department.

6.7 Backhoe Loan: The FY19 loan payment decreased by \$126 from \$7,360 to \$7,234. FY20 will be the final year of this loan, which is within the tax levy, not a debt exclusion.

6.8 Police Cruiser Loan: The FY19 loan payment decreased by \$279 from \$13,835 to \$13,556. FY20 will be the final year of this loan, which is a debt exclusion.

7.0 FRCOG: The combined assessment for all the programs increased by \$989 (1.9%), from \$52,350 to \$53,339. There was a brief discussion about the way to request additional attention from the Inspection Program for zoning enforcement. Ray, as the Town's representative to the Program, will mention it at an upcoming meeting of the Advisory Board.

For the Selectboard, Greg made a motion, seconded by John, to accept the FY19 budgets presented tonight: 4.3, 6.2, 6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, and 7.0. The vote was unanimous (3-0) in the affirmative.

For the Finance Committee, Timmie made a motion, seconded by Ronnie, to accept the FY19 budgets presented tonight: 4.3, 6.2, 6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.8, and 7.0. The vote was unanimous (5-0) in the affirmative.

The Finance Committee and Selectboard adjourned their meetings at 7:20 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.

Signed copy on file. Approved on 05/10/2018

Greg Snedeker, Selectboard Clerk

Adopted by the Finance Committee in lieu of separate Finance Committee minutes on 05/10/2018.