



Freetown Finance Committee

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May 1, 2017 @ 6:00 PM

2017 JUN 13 PM 2:17

Members present: George, Kent, Joel, Mikki, Gary, David, Bob (at 7:00 pm)

George called the meeting to order at 6:03

Opened discussion on \$3mil and \$65,900 request by the Water Commission for water purchased from the City of Fall River to go through a filtration system as contains high levels of THM. Gary worked out a chart with information received from the Town Hall on water users in Assonet. George thought that if we received a bond over a period of 25 years, the cost to water users would be minimal (approximately \$29.81 per year for a residential customer).

Water Department joined the FinCom at 6:15 and opened their meeting for discussion. The WD says that the issue is East Freetown's and not the customers and therefore customers should not be penalized and carry the burden of the cost of repairing or replacing. DEP is putting pressure on the town to complete the repairs to the water system and will begin fining for each day the job is incomplete at a cost of \$1,000 per day. A transfer of \$65,900 would assist with new filters which the DEP will allow to see if the levels are reduced. Can the residents afford the increases although it is at a minimal cost? Should the cost be the burden of the 404 users in Assonet or the whole town?

May 9 @ 6:00 PM for next meeting to vote on articles and see if a betterment fee is possible.

Joined BOS at 7:08 for budget review.

Kim stated the Capital Budget has \$2,199,404 and the Cash Fund has \$17,694.

Conservation Commission: \$1779 increase due to test all bodies of water in Freetown by order of the Board of Health.

Town Administrator: \$50-60,000 increase over 3 years. Uses his personal debit card for approximately \$2500/year.

Management Information: upgrade cloud server with Amazon, prevent issues with hacking, maintenance, security. \$17,500 is for what equipment. Need more information. \$6990 for VADAR. Can we regionalize IT with Lakeville or another community vs hiring an IT person.

Legal: two bills are on reserve. Last bill received was for February.

Reserve Fund: balance \$63,995.

School's numbers: not available. There is a meeting on May 10 @ 5:30 at the Council on Aging to go over numbers. Currently at \$515,000 over last year using a 2.6% increase plus transportation.

Motion to adjourn made by Gary, seconded by David – unanimous.

Meeting adjourned 8:09

Respectfully submitted

Lois Amaral, Finance Committee Senior Clerk