



TOWN OF FREETOWN
Finance Committee
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2021 JUL 16 AM 11:25
Cheryl A. Estrella

Minutes of

MEETING: 6:30 PM Monday June 7, 2021

Apponequet Regional High School, 100 Howland Rd, Lakeville MA

Call to order at 6:35 in the foyer outside the main entrance to the Apponequet High School Gymnasium.

Present: Gary Martin (chair), Katie Calheta, Margaret French, Kent Wilkins

Absent: Bob Alderson, Emily-Anne Dors, Christine Shea Dupras

Guests: Town Administrator Peter Jankowski, Moderator Mike McCue

Motion by Katie, seconded by Margaret, to approve the minutes from meetings of 24 February 2021, 24 March 2021, 15 April 2021, 22 April 2021, 4 May 2021, and 13 May 2021. Approved unanimously. Yes: Katie, Margaret, Kent, Gary.

Peter explained why he preferred having the Health Department handle improvements to the Town Beach and other recreational facilities, rather than the Building Department, saying that the Building Department has a lot on it's plate and the work would not be likely to be done quickly under their management. We had recommended that the appropriation of \$15,000 for this work be given to the Building Department rather than the Health Department because, according to the recent reorganization of the budget, they have responsibility for maintaining town property. We decided, however, that we want to see the project done quickly, so made an exception in this one case and changed our recommendation.

Motion by Kent, seconded by Katie, to decrease the Public Buildings and Properties Maintenance Expenses by \$15,000 to \$294,999 and increase the Health Inspection Services Expenses recommendation by \$15,000 to \$26,945. Approved unanimously. Yes: Yes: Katie, Margaret, Kent, Gary.

Motion by Margaret, seconded by Kent to change our recommendations for the Personnel budgets of the Animal Control Officer, Building, Civil Defense, Veterans Services, and Library to match those of the Board of Selectmen, reflecting 2% increases for non-union employees, and recommending \$4428.80 less than the Board of Selectmen for the Council on Aging Personnel budget to include the 2% increase but to exclude the requested additional part time senior clerk in training. Approved unanimously. Yes: Katie, Margaret, Kent, Gary.

The new recommendations approved in the preceding vote are:

Animal Control Officer	\$37,425.00
Building	\$119,220.00
Civil Defense	\$2691.78
Veterans Services	\$12,240.00
Library	\$125,760.76
Council on Aging	\$146,217.20

We discussed how to present our recommendation on the Trash Collection and Disposal budget at the Annual Town Meeting. This led to a fairly detailed discussion with Peter of the bids and the unknown costs.

We reviewed the changes made tonight with Mike, during which several omissions were brought to our attention.

Mike explained that the police lockup attendants are non-union employees, and were granted 2% raises by the Board of Selectmen.

Motion by Katie, seconded by Kent, to increase our recommendation for the Police Personnel budget by \$20 to \$126305.94 to fund 2% raises for lockup attendants. Approved unanimously. Yes: Katie, Margaret, Kent, Gary.

At 7:31, the meeting was moved to the Middle School Auditorium, where the Special and Annual Town Meetings were being held. Signs were posted on the door to direct people to the new location.

Motion by Margaret, seconded by Katie, to match the Board of Selectmen recommendation of \$1,132,463 for the Fire Department Personnel budget. Approved unanimously. Yes: Katie, Margaret, Kent, Gary.

Motion to adjourn at 10:06 pm by Katie, seconded by Margaret. Approved unanimously. Yes: Katie, Margaret, Kent, Gary.

Minutes prepared by Gary Martin