

# Town of Charlton

## Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Selectman's Meeting Room

April 12, 2017

In Attendance: Jerry Doble – Chairman, Peter Cooper – Vice-Chairman, Doug Stepien, Hank Camosse, and Maura O'Connor

Meeting came to order at: 6:32pm

1. Approval of Minutes from March 22, March 28 and March 29 – Motion to accept by Peter Cooper; second by Doug Stepien.
2. Robin Craver: Finance Committee has finished the budget hearings; now need to see what the issues are; however the school budget is still the outlier. There is a meeting right now with the Dudley School Committee to see where they are with their budget.

Robin is holding off on the Town Accountant job until the fall due to many of the changes. However, the position is being advertised.

Assumptions and Changes:

*Revenue:* State Aid increases, local receipt increases, Ambulance, Prop 2 ½ increase, new growth increase.

*Expenditures:* Stipends are level funded, Non-union increases, Union Contract increases, Highway & Clerical have open contracts, Environmental increases, Insurance, Retirement and Education. Savings on Treasurer/Collector, HR Director, inflation and software, Increase Town Clerk hours, Police, Cemetery, Library. (Other various savings)

The balance of the stabilization fund is over a million dollars currently.

The question from previous meetings on giving more in stipends; Robin is going to recommend that the HR Director do a survey with competitive towns and their stipends before making a decision.

There will be a warrant article for non-union personnel; the bi-law was looked at and requested an adjustment of 1% above the average, but not to exceed 2 ½%.

Revenue: Nothing has come out of the Stabilization Fund.

OPEB: Recommendation of putting \$500,000 back into the account.

There will be an audit on Free Cash coming soon.

The new Treasurer/Collector starts next week

The goal for the next meeting is to decide where the \$544,000 is coming from depending on what the DCRSD budget comes back as.

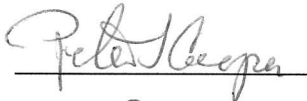
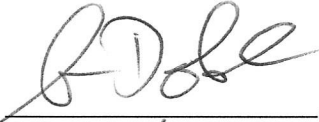

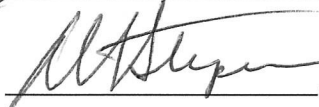
Casella is a "go" with the town of Southbridge and Casella and the DEP are both willing to put in 5 million dollars with water to go to Berry Corner and other roads.

Robin asked for a motion by the Finance Committee to approve compensation to the Collector's Office. Over the last several months they have stepped up and ran the office short staffed. Robin believes that \$5,000 is reasonable compensation for all they have done. Motion by Doug Stepien; second by Peter Cooper – All in Favor – unanimous decision.

Motion to adjourn by Peter Cooper; second by Doug Stepien.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43

Voted: 4 / 26 / 17

Approved: , , \_\_\_\_\_  
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