



Franklin

MASSACHUSETTS

Finance Committee

Meeting Date: April 18, 2018

Present: Dufour, Conley, Dewsnap, Fleming, Huempfner, Wiech, Dowd, Moses, Smith

Absent: None

Call to order: 7:00 PM

Citizens Comments: None, no citizens present

Approval of minutes: Minutes of April 17, 2018 were reviewed and approved. Vote 9-0,

Department Overviews:

- **Recreation – Ryan Jette:** This budget is very straight forward and is 100% self-supporting. The new building has allowed for new programs for middle school strength and conditioning, dodge ball and pickle ball. Baseball training is ongoing utilizing batting cages in the new facility. It also allows for moving traditionally outdoor activities indoors to continue when raining. Building is also getting a lot of use for meetings and things like CPR training.
- **Library – Felicia Oti:** Budget is up \$63,000 to fully utilize the new building. We are still about \$100,000 short of the state mandated amount. The gap has been steadily closing over that last few years and should be closed within the next two years with the goal being 110%. Currently run 8 weekly regular programs for all ages and looking to add a science based program and weekend programs. Funds are in the budget for materials. Building almost complete except for windows at the top, a gate to limit access to main library floor allowing for evening meetings on the lower level.
- **Town Clerk – Teresa Burr:** Budget level funded with contractual changes and COLA.
- **Elections – Teresa Burr:** Funding included for two elections this year.
- **Regional Dispatch:** This budget represents the anticipated half year of operation. Franklin's share is currently set at 47% of the total costs. The share will be reviewed once the operation is up and will be adjusted to the reality of actual call volumes. Details being worked out for fire stations (probably camera equipped kiosk) and police due to the need to cover walk-ins.
- **Police:** Postponed to next meeting.

General Discussion:

- Deputy TA Hellen announced that the water department for upgrades to equipment. Will enhance operations and also go toward for Green Community.
- Question as to the difference between reserve for Open Space Acquisition and Property Acquisition. TA Nutting explained the open space would be land acquired for pure open space and recreational uses while Property Acquisition is really misnamed. It is intended to be a reserve for building maintenance in the event of catastrophic failures of building systems.
- Free cash currently stands at \$500,000+/- . There will be a transfer to cover the snow budget and in June the remaining balance will be transferred to road and sidewalk repairs.
- Question as to what the Traffic Stabilization account represented. Basically this is where money “gifted” to the town is deposited. An example is the Dean Avenue apartments where the contractor will be providing the money to upgrade the existing infrastructure in that area (roads, sidewalks etc).

Next Meeting: Next Tuesday at **6:00 PM** in the third floor training room.

Adjourn: 7:35PM