

MEETING MINUTES-WEST NEWBURY  
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date & Time: Tuesday April 2, 2019 7pm

Location : 1910 Building 1st Floor Hearing Room

Attendees: Gary L. Roberts Jr., Chairman, Angus Jennings, Forbes Durey, Brad Beaudoin, Nathan Kelly, Jessica Knezek, Jim Sperelakis

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment, Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per resident for items on the agenda. The chair may allow for more time depending on number of residents seeking to participate.

None. Tom Atwood(Board of Assessors)- there have been changes to their budget they would like to discuss but he was asked to wait for his section of the budget.

3. Late File Items

Paul Sevigny and Bob Janes- received test results for the old town dump- there were high levels of methane, which is likely to affect their expense budget for FY2020, there are currently 8 wells for monitoring, this number is likely to raise to 12 wells and testing may change from quarterly to monthly which would significantly affect monitoring costs.

4. Review article narratives

This item has been rescheduled to next week.

5. Discuss reconsidering previously reviewed articles and departmental budget adjustments as mentioned during meeting of 3/25/19

Recommended changes from the Board /of Selectmen include:

DPW, expenses

-\$10,000 BOS did not feel that projected increases in tree service and catch basin cleaning warranted an expense increase

5-1, approve, Roberts opposed

Police

Cruiser -\$8,000 with idea of purchasing a previous years model, a quote has been offered at this decreased price.

6-0 approve

### Personnel Budgets

Town clerk -salary and wages +\$1,647 for assistant clerk pay rate to increase from \$20.13 to \$22.22. Jennings notes that the area of wages in general could use a more systemized review

4-2 approve - Beaudoin, Kelly dissenting

Planning - salary and wages -\$1,854 for city planner.

Planning - salary and wages +\$7,194 for new admin assistant

Assessing- salary and wages ~\$7,000 to offset cost for new admin assistant for planning by taking 6 hrs/week from assessing. Atwood noted their concerns with losing 6hrs/week of their admin assistant esp with a re-assessment this coming year.

0-6(above 3 items collectively, Beaudoin made a motion to vote on each item collectively which did not pass)

Police overtime wages -\$2,847

6-0 approve

Inspection- -\$1,939 BOS recommended reduction in hours from 30-25 hours. Durey notes that this request was made in a prior year and also removed by the board of selectmen.

0-6 disapprove.

DPW salary and wages - +2,199- 6% raise for grounds Forman

+ \$1,500 uniform stipends for non-union employees

4-2 approve, Beaudoin, Roberts opposed

Council on aging- salary and wages -\$2,209

1-5 disapprove, Beaudoin opposed

Water dept, salary and wages -\$3,686- BOS recommended COLA only. Gootee notes that 70% of his work involves working with DPW on various projects. He also notes that this is the first time that the Board of Selectmen has gone against the recommendation of the Water Commission.

0-6

### Articles

Request to reconsider vote for article #6: School Resource Officer Article Vote. Durey notes that this article sets a precedent that West Newbury will always front the whole cost of the SRO, well over \$100,000, for which the town is only reimbursed \$28,000. Knezek

notes that this article doesn't represent the salary for the SRO, but only an accounting adjustment.

2-3 motion to reconsider the vote on this article was denied

Motion to reconsider the vote on article #28 regarding large scale ground mounted solar arrays.

2-4 Beaudoin, Durey, Roberts, Sperelakis opposed, motion to reconsider was denied

6. Communications

Meeting minutes from 3/19 and 3/25 approved 6-0

7. Adjournment