

FinCom Meeting Minutes 4/9/2018 7:00PM

Attendees: Tom Ellis, Brad Beaudoin, Nathan Kelly, Gary Roberts, Forbes Durey

No public comment.

General discussion as to finalization of town meeting materials.

FinCom voted to approve the Omnibus budget for FY2019 4-0. In discussion, Beaudoin noted that he is still uncomfortable with a 5% budget as it is not sustainable with Proposition 2 1/2. Kelly noted that a good percentage of this increase comes from the schools and is not something that West Newbury controls directly.

The finalized ATM and STM warrants were reviewed and potential appendices discussed. The items receiving appendices will be:

1. the capital improvement committee's rankings for the articles considered. Beaudoin also suggested adding the stabilization table's summary columns to give the town an idea of projected future cost of capital items.
2. Glossary-adding a definition for the term "sunset"
3. Town Revenues
4. Town Meeting impact on town accounts

There was general discussion about whether an appendix should be added as it may relate to the solar articles, but based on the polarizing nature of the articles, a decision was made not to include these materials for concern that either side of the issue may feel as that their side was not adequately presented.

Sunset clauses were added to articles that were missing them

ATM #17: town managers moving expenses, 4-0 approved

STM #4: early voting, 4-0 approved

STM #6: cameras for public safety, 4-0 approved

Discussion regarding language for articles which did not receive a majority vote of support. On the current draft, it is unclear when an article was NOT approved by the Selectmen or FinCom. After some discussion, the committee agreed to use the convention established in previous years

Printing of the town meeting materials was discussed. The committee agreed that with the departure of Secretary Grammer, who was primarily responsible for printing the FinCom booklets for the previous town meeting, it would be best to have the booklets printed professionally. Beaudoin volunteered his time to print these books to save on printing costs.