

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes

November 20, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rich Buley, Chairman
Robert Horacek, Vice-Chairman
Dick Condron
Art Pinell
Terry Mish

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: **Linda Bathel**
Sheila Chamberlin

OTHERS PRESENT: Laura Fletcher, Town Accountant
Melinda Wingate, Assistant Town Accountant
Michelle Hill, TCC
Jessica Menzone, Assistant TCC

The Finance Committee was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

The next Finance Committee Meeting will be held on December 18, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

6:10 p.m. Appointment: Michelle Hill, Treasurer/Collector/Clerk:

M. Hill, TCC met with the Finance Committee to discuss her request for additional staff in her office and creating a new non-union Jr. Assistant position. She also discussed the option of quarterly billing for real estate as many cities and towns in Massachusetts now do. M. Hill, TCC also stated that she believes it will help reduce “repeat offenders”, tax payers who pay their taxes late. M. Hill also proposed the option of the Clerk’s Office staying open late one evening a week, with a rotation in staff working a ½ day on Friday. The Finance Committee asked several questions about the turnover in staff, advertising the clerk position in addition to the Westfield Evening News and what the financial advantages would be with quarterly billing. Please see Attachment “A”, M. Hill’s presentation information. The Finance Committee will discuss the request with the Select Board during the FY 19 Budget Hearings.

Public Comments:

There were no Public Comments.

Old Business:

The Finance Committee has not received a response from the Moderator in regards to audio recording Finance Committee meetings.

A. Pinell spoke to Park and Recreations about winterizing Whalley Park.

New Business:

The School Committee invited the Finance Committee to their Round Table meeting on November 30, 2017.

A MOTION was made by A. Pinell, seconded by R. Horacek (Vote: Yes: 4 Abstain: 1 T.M.) to approve the minutes of October 23, 2017.

A MOTION was made by R. Horacek, seconded by D. Condron (Vote: Unanimous) to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Solek
Secretary, Finance Committee

Rich Buley, Chairman