



TOWN OF AVON
2020 FEB 27 A 7:57

[Signature]
TOWN CLERK

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2020

Members Present: Daniel Norian, Shannon Coffey, Judith Leggett, Derek Staffier

Members Not Present: Kathleen Sheehan

Also Present: Ellen Norian, Selectmen Eric Beckerman, Gregory Enos, Town Administrator, Mat Doucet, Jay Suzor, Steve Rose

Meeting came to order at 7:05 p.m.

Meeting Minutes Approved: February 19, 2020

Motion to Approve Minutes: February 19, 2020

- 1. Judith Leggett 2. Shannon Coffey, Vote Unanimous**

Correspondence / Mail:

New Business:

The book will be mailed tomorrow by Eric Beckerman.

The Finance Committee will meet on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. for the budget workshop.

Budget:

Greg and the Finance Committee discussed the budget and deficit. The budget was discussed in length regarding ways to cut the deficit. The Finance Committee had questions regarding the DPW budget. Why some line items increased from what they were last year. The committee will analyze DPW budget and come back with any questions.

Regarding the Board of Health, Shannon had questions regarding the increase in waste collection. The reasoning is that it is contractual. There were questions regarding whether or not the fuel surcharge is in the contract with waste management (no expense for this in 2019). Judy would like more information on an explanation on how this figure arrived at 20K. There is no way to lock in a cost due to the price changes. Judy had questions regarding some of the line items and other expenses, office supplies increased \$1000. The purchase supplies are high. A grant previously paid for these items.

Compost cost increased due to a proposal to open 1 day during the week.

Shannon had questions regarding the 6% increase for the library director.

Police Dept. [Signature]
The ~~fire~~ department would like to hire an administrative assistant. This position is more of a special project position, general investigations, some clerical. Greg stated that this is a full time position. The new position will be non union.

The police department is requesting an increase for custodial services due to the building size. The cost was previously shared between the police and fire department due to occupying the same building.

Greg and Eric Beckerman want to come up with potential creative ways to lower the budget deficit and control the tax rate to fix this years' budget and to help next years' budget as well due to the cost of bonds.

Finance Committee will speak with individual departments regarding questions about the budget.

Greg explained the bottom line budget to the Finance Committee.

The department has different line items and guidelines as long as you are within your expenses. The total expense if voted on. Memberships sometimes go up because a new person is joining. The overall department cannot go up more than 2.5 to 3%. If there is more of an increase, the department will be questioned as to why. There are also the unknowns. Some departments use their budget during certain periods throughout the year, could be spring summer or fall or at the end of the budget season. You have to adjust for rising costs as well. Items will be level funded if they are not contractual.

Shannon would like to look at year to date. The Finance Committee wants to look more into what is being spent due to the deficit and does not want to increase taxes.

The next meeting for finance committee is Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss budget and the budget workshop.

Dan would like to invite Chief Spur from fire possibly to the meeting on February 26, 2020.

Old Business:

Meeting Adjourned: The meeting of the Finance Committee was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

1. Derek Staffier, 2. Judith Leggett, Vote Unanimous

The next meeting of the Finance Committee will be Wednesday, February 26, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne McKenney

Recording Secretary