

WASHINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 8, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

In Attendance: Kent Lew, Dick Spencer, Sean Connors, and David Weissbrod

OLD BUSINESS

1. Finance committee meeting minutes from January 11, 2016, as amended, were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Financial Audit

Dan Parnell stopped by... We discussed the possibility and the mechanics of arranging for an audit. It's been several years since our last one, which was performed by Scanlon Associates. Dan said he's not sure if Scanlon Associates still perform town audits. He said Melanson–Heath performed audit for Becket recently and he said they were very helpful. We thought we could ask them for an estimate. The committee agreed that we'd want to have an audit before we go to a bank for any large loans.

2. MGL Ch. 39B §9A -- Post-Employment Insurance

Dave reported to Committee. Since last meeting, he made contact with MMA employee Katie McCue (x-123) regarding healthcare coverage for town employee retirees. She provided him with the following info: Parameters cannot be changed by town; town from which eligible employee retires from is responsible for providing insurance; retiree's dependents as well as surviving dependents are eligible. Although our town has not participated in this program, it would require approval by town vote or by approval of ballot question. Kent asked if passage of proposed changes to Mass Law could be grandfathered. Dave said he'd find out and provided committee with answer via email. Kent will discuss with Selectboard.

3. Vehicle Insurance Update

Dick reported to Committee. The non-medical insurance yearly rates are presently itemized as follows:

- a. Police-Fire \$6,202.32
- b. School Bus \$563.75
- c. DPW \$12,702.00

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3. Vehicle Insurance Update (Continued)

d. Other \$6598.88

The fact that these costs are itemized will make it easier to track increases or decreases of insurance costs for individual entities, and will encourage individual entities to 'own' budgets associated with insurance coverage. We discussed need to confirm what insurance we are required to carry and to confirm that we have enough insurance.

4. CBRSD Update

Dick reported that a preliminary budget has our town up 1.2% for coming FY, although overall budget is down. Dick said the Cummington closing and pupil decrease within our district is already affecting budget.

5. Any (Other) New Business

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55.

Respectfully,

David Weissbrod, Clerk