

Advisory and Finance Committee

Minutes from meeting date -April 22, 2019

Present: Vice Chair Nick Raffa, Bob Mullen, Mike Pasternak, Denise DeLeo and new members: Jason Gonsalves & Tracey Wallace. Also in attendance: Chief George McNeil

Absent from meeting: Steve Sabra and Larry Guay and Doris Rousseau

Meeting opened at 6:05 PM.

Chief McNeil discussed overview of department – both the Police and 911 budget. – They are over budget for expenses due to the money needed for cruiser leases that did not materialize. That caused him to be over budget. The cruiser leases are also part of his capital plan request – to pay off the leases for the 2016 and 2017 vehicles.

Personnel is down and they are in need of additional people. This also accounts for large overtime figure in budget.

He is good with payroll – but indicated that base salaries are low compared to other towns.

We discussed items on the budget – ammunition, wages, overtime and the Quinn bill – which is also a large item on the budget report.

Capital items discussed:

- Replace radio system - \$250k (the system needs to be replaced – there have been frequent episodes of dropped calls)
- New Vests – they are close to expiring – requested 20 new vests -\$900/vest
- Pay off of vehicle leases – as indicated above

We also discussed that our next meeting is May 6 and Nick was going to invite Joe Bolton and Mr. Brown to attend to answer questions on budget items relative to the Articles being presented at town meeting.

In review, we met with most departments, except for the K-8 School Dept. Most town departments are showing a 3-4% budget increase; police department showing a 9% increase.

Next meeting May 6th at Town Hall.

All voted to accept previous minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM.