

**MINUTES
TOWN OF HARWICH
FINANCE COMMITTEE
SMALL MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL
732 MAIN STREET, HARWICH, MA 02645
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024 - 6:00PM**

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: Peter Hughes, Chair, Bob MacCready, Vice Chair, Mark Kelleher, Clerk, Dan Tworek, Mark Ameres, and Michele Gallucci

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Hughes called the meeting of the Harwich Finance Committee to order on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 6:00PM. He read the open Meeting Law Recording Notice.

II. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Presentation and discussion of FY25 Cape Tech operating budget

Dr. Robert Sanborn, III, Superintendent, Cape Cod Regional Technical High School was present. Also present was Deputy Chief Kevin Considine.

Mr. Hughes noted that a point of discussion at the Budget meeting was the School Resource Officer. He also noted that there are 6 Committee members present. The Chair declared a quorum.

Dr. Sanborn gave a brief history of the Officers that they have had at the school in the past and that they have always budgeted \$20,000 towards covering a portion of the cost of the Resource Officer. He is committed to continuing to have a Resource Officer stating that it has been invaluable for the school. He explained that the \$20,000 goes to the Town of Harwich but it represents their contribution for all the towns.

Deputy Chief Considine commented that the percentage of time that the Officer spends at school during the school year is full time. During the summer months he works a patrol shift.

Conversation continued regarding the officer's percentage of time and salary noting that the figure would be approximately \$73,000.

Dr. Sanborn commented that it would be for FY26 as his FY25 Budget is completed and he cannot revisit that contribution.

Discussion followed regarding the contribution based on enrollment.

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After discussion, Mr. Hughes asked that Dr. Sanborn and Deputy Chief Considine work the numbers and send him an email with what the projected amount is for FY26.

Dr. Sanborn presented the FY25 Cape Cod Tech Operating Budget thanking and noting all the parties that contributed to the final Budget. He noted specific fluctuations in student enrollment and the impact of those numbers. Dr. Sanborn continued through the Budget pointing out specific notes of interest including State Aid, Operating Assessment increase for the District and their Excess, Deficiency Account and Expenses. Mr. Sanborn noted the current waiting list of applicants to the Tech School and the property they are hoping to acquire which they will utilize for two new programs.

Dr. Sanborn continued through the Budget. Committee members asked questions which Dr. Sanborn answered.

b. Warrant Articles: Discussion and possible votes

Mr. Hughes noted that the Warrant has not been completed for discussion at this time. He also stated that he had contacted the Moderator and expressed the FinCom's concern about the timeline and the fact that they do not yet have a Warrant. The Moderator did respond but did not note a definite time that the Warrant would be available. Also unknown is when the Finance Committee will have two additional members.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

a. FY25 Town Operating Budget: Discussion and possible votes

Mr. Hughes referred to the all day Budget meeting and asked for the Committee's feedback.

Mr. Kelleher commented that he had requested information on 204 Sisson Rd. He is looking for updates on the Capital Programs.

Mr. Hughes also noted that he had requested a follow up on the generator at the Harbor. He commented on the lack of information and asked for the Committee's support in submitting a request for public documents.

Committee members expressed their support for Mr. Hughes to move forward and request public documents.

Mr. Hughes noted that the next meeting is Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 6:00PM in the Small Meeting Room.

Mr. MacCready referred to the Revolving Funds and expressed that more information is needed for the public to better understand it. He also referred to the Inter-Fund Transfer, requesting a break down listing the components.

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Discussion followed regarding the process going forward including getting information and the obligation to have a Public Meeting.

IV. OTHER:

Mr. Hughes referred to the Charge which the Finance Committee had voted on. He was informed that because the Finance Committee falls under the Town Moderator, that the Select Board does not have the authority to tell them what to do.

V. ADJOURN

Mr. Ameres moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. MacCready.

Vote 6:0 in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi Moldstad
Board Secretary.

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