

MILFORD FINANCE COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 10, 2016

PRESENT: Marc Schaen (Chair), Aldo Cecchi, Phil Ciaramicoli, Jerry Hiatt, Chuck Miklosovich, Chris Morin, Michael Nicholson, Jeff Niro, and Michael Schiavi.

Members not present: Al Correia, Bob DeVita, Joyce Lavigne, Michael Soares, John Tennaro and Vincenzo Valastro.

Also present: Zachary Taylor, Town Accountant/Financial Director and Paul Abbondanza, Financial Analyst.

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

Chuck Miklosovich moved to approve the 12-9-15 Minutes, seconded by Michael Nicholson, all in favor.

Subcommittee Reports:

Jerry Hiatt reported that the General Government departments are doing well.

Chris Morin reported that the Public Works departments are doing well.

Chuck Miklosovich reported that the Human Services departments are doing well.

Budget Review:

Finance Director Zachary Taylor presented a balance sheet for the FY17 budget prepared by him and Paul Abbondanza, Finance Analyst.

On the Revenue side the numbers presented represented a Cherry Sheet increase of 2 1/2 percent over last year although the Governor proposed a 4.5 percent increase. A 2 1/2 percent increase on the FY16 Levy (Prop 2 1/2) and all other revenues are flat. The FinCom is taking a conservative approach until the Governor's budget goes through the vetting process of the state legislature. The FinCom will have time to adapt if there are significant changes.

On the Expense side the recommendation is 2 1/2 percent increase across the board bringing the operating budget to \$96,692,646. This includes a 4 percent Retirement increase, 5 percent Workers Comp increase and 4 percent Health Insurance increase. The Health Insurance increase is low due to the excess funds from FY16 being applied to the increase. This is a reset year and Health Insurance will be back on track to increase 8 percent plus in FY18.

The recommendation was made by the Chair, Marc Schaen, to increase the Capital Projects appropriation to \$1.5 million as we have been over our previous \$1 million for the last four years. Also recommended by the Chair was reducing the Levy Adjustment to \$1 million. As always, if there is extra Levy Capacity, it will be applied to reduce the tax burden.

Other significant appropriations were \$500,000 to Stabilization as this is in keeping with the financial plan laid out to pay for the Woodland School. That debt is in this year's operational budget, \$3 million. Also again this year, School Choice out has increase to \$1,168,463.

This proposal does not include the approximate \$250k for the MWRTA bus transportation addition.

The Total proposed budget is \$101,733,726 leaving a potential surplus of \$1,163,500. This leaves room for the Transportation addition, clearing snow and ice deficit (if there is one) and money to cover unforeseen circumstances.

Vote: All in favor – Unanimous

Chair asked Paul Abbondanza and Zachary Taylor to publish the recommendations of the committee to department heads so they have guidelines to work on their budget. They will be sent out on February 12 with expected return second week of March.

IT Tablet Presentation: Andrew Diorio, IT Director, reported on the purchase of the tablets. He has created a separate email and password for the Finance Committee. Members will be able to share documents. Total for the Tablets with Cloud Solutions and Services is \$9078.81.

Phil Ciaramicoli moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Mike Schiavi, all in favor.

Chris Morin moved to adjourn, seconded by Jeff Niro, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Diana Hearn

Documents reviewed:

Revenues and Projected Expenditures for FY17

Outlook web App – Google