

Town of Plympton Finance Committee Minutes
Monday March 6, 2017
Plympton Town House, Plympton, MA

The meeting was called to order at 5:50

Members in attendance: Nathaniel Sides (NS), Lisa Hart (LH), Eric Hart (EH), Marilyn Brown (MB)

Approval of Minutes

Date	Motion by	Seconded by	Vote
February 27, 2017	MB	EH	Unanimous

Budget Meetings

Board of Selectmen – submitted budgets

Accountant – Budget was discussed. Includes a contractual 3.2% salary increase. Includes a 2+2% increase for Administrative Assistant and a small increase in expenses for computer.

Treasurer – County pension is up 7%. Group Health is up 15%. There will be a slight increase in Medicare and unemployment is level. Treasurer/Collectors salary include a 2+2% increase. Support staff includes a 2+2% increase plus an additional 3 hours to cover the additional work associated with the elimination of the lockbox. There is an increase in expenses for increased postage. Principle and Interest includes an increase of \$3,231 for principle payments on betterment. This was previously paid thru receipt of payments on taxes. These collected payments will now go to local receipts.

Highway – The budget was discussed. The highway surveyor salary includes a 2% increase, however, he is in the process of trying to negotiate a 2 year contract which may effect this. Discussions are ongoing with Wage and Personnel to increase the highway labor pay ranges by \$3.00 and put employees to the top of the range. General highway is level, except for a 3% increase in overtime, which the finance committee asked to be moved to the highway labor line. Cemetery line includes a \$5,202 stipend for the burial agent. Equipment and maintenance line is level. Park department is mostly labor and a few supplies. Snow and ice is level. Transfer station has a slight decrease and the labor lines include a 2+2% increase for administrative assistant and a straight 2% for other labor. Capital requests were discussed. This year includes \$250,000 for road repairs. A safety grant that has been applied for will be used after these road improvements are done. \$30,000 is also being requested for roof repair to the town barn. Future years were also discussed.

Assessor – The budget was discussed. Maps may be \$1,500 higher than the submitted budget. There may be a run over this year because valuation software maintenance was more costly than budgeted. All labor lines include a 2+2% increase.

Board of Appeals – Ken Thompson stopped in and asked for an increase in his budget to \$1,200 for the required legal posting he has been required to do. There may be a run over this year.

Board of Health – Budget was discussed. Their administrative assistant has retired. Office clerk was hired to fill the position and is currently working 25 hours a week at \$19.06 per hour (\$24,778). The board used this number in their budget and is looking to include an increase to this of the recommended wage and personnel increase (2%?). The expense budget needs to be increase to cover a shortfall that has occurred both of the last two years. The board may need a reserve fund transfer to cover a possible over run this year. Finance

committee recommended the board include their computer needs on the list being developed by the BOS for new IT/computer equipment so he could get his new computer that way as part of a grant request.

Reserve Fund Transfer

A reserve fund transfer was submitted by the Building Department for \$4,100.

Motion

Date	Motion by	Seconded by	Vote
March 6, 2017	MB	EH	The vote was unanimous that the Finance committee needs more information from the Building department to process this request.

Assessor reviewed new growth numbers with us and believes this figure should be about \$70,000. She recommended using \$65,000 in our revenue numbers.

Town accountant reviewed changes in revenue. The free cash is back to the full amount of \$330,000. It is recommended that \$200,000 be used for operating budget and \$130,000 be used for onetime expenses. Ambulance fund it up to \$250,000 (these funds may only be used for ambulance expenses).

Next meeting March 13, 2017 at 5:45

Motion to adjourn: Motion made by MB, seconded by EH, unanimous at 7:55

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Hart, Secretary