



Town of Acton

Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: July 25th, 2017

Town Hall Room 204 • 7:30 pm

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Members in attendance: Bob Evans, Jason Cole (Vice-chair), David Wellinghoff (Clerk), John Benson (Associate), Steve Noone (Chair), Roland Bourdon, Christine Russell (Associate), Tom Farley

Members absent: Christiana Andersen, Jeff Bergart, Mike Majors,

Other: Brian McMullen, Janet Adachi (BoS)

Chair Noone called meeting to order at 7:31.

Public participation – None.

Discuss Nitschelm Email – The Committee was not involved in the negotiations with the Teachers unions contract nor with the HIWG. A rough estimate of the 1 year cost of salaries in the contract is \$1.2mn to Acton. John Benson notes that 2% of teachers are receiving salaries in excess of \$100,000. Chair notes that while premium cost sharing of 25% is currently active, other recent changes (e.g. copays, deductibles) should mitigate that this is not being raised further. The Committee debates whether to have a more adversarial role in regards to ALG and town business.

Discuss Point of View Topics – Discussion whether to use untaxed levy capacity, stabilization fund use, amount of reserves use, and what is the recommended increase in spending. Will continue discussion at next meeting.

CBA for Teachers Contract – Chair presents information on the recent contract negotiations with the teachers which have a COLA of 1.5% in FY18, 2.4% in FY19, and 1.8% in FY20 as well as steps/supermax of 2.3% average throughout this time period.

Estimates are a 13.1% salary increase over this time over the FY17 budget which averages a \$1,264,267 increase annually over this timeframe.

Finance Committee Business – Potential for a new fire station that has a more centralized location meeting. CPC did not get additional funding from the governor this year. Next meeting will be for training for new members.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Wellinghoff
Finance Committee Clerk