



FINANCE COMMITTEE
Town of Grafton
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RECEIVED TOWN CLERK
GRAFTON, MA

Finance Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, March 8, 2023
7:00PM
Conference Room A
AND
via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chair Mark Haddad. In attendance by roll call were Chair Mark Haddad, Vice Chair Greg Marr, Clerk Angelina Correia, Skip Currier, Dan Cusher, Victoria Duckworth via Zoom, Heather McCue via Zoom, Nick Rioux via Zoom, and Sue Robbins via Zoom. Staff in attendance were Town Administrator Evan Brassard, Finance Director Mary Lauria via Zoom, Assistant Town Administrator William Blake, and Administrative Assistant Amber Diffenderfer via Zoom.

Review the FY24 School Department Budget with Superintendent Jay Cummings and Director of Finance Anita Patel

Dr. Cummings gave the Grafton Public Schools FY24 Budget Overview presentation.

Mr. Haddad and Dr. Cummings discussed funding building improvements for ADA compliance and general repairs to the older schools, which may require greater renovations in the future.

Mr. Haddad appreciated the quality of the budget that Dr. Cummings presented.

Mr. Cusher and Dr. Cummings discussed how the tuition from two out-of-district students would cover costs for the 18-22 program with Bread Guy Breads.

Mr. Marr confirmed with Dr. Cummings that the reductions in staffing are due to lack of need and retirement. Mr. Marr noted one increase in K-1 counselling.

Ms. Robbins appreciated the addition of an adjustment counselor for North Grafton Elementary and South Grafton Elementary Schools.

Mr. Haddad noted the increased costs that are expected in FY25. Mr. Brassard stated that he believes they have the revenues get through FY25 without needing additional funding.

Mr. Marr, Mr. Haddad, and Ms. Robbins spoke about the amount of Chapter 70 funding that Grafton is set to receive this year. Ms. Robbins suggested meeting with their representative and state senator to discuss this issue.

Discuss State of the Town Message

Mr. Marr agreed to prepare a draft of the State of the Town Message to present to the Finance Committee at their first meeting to review the warrant articles for Spring Town Meeting.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Currier made a motion seconded by Mr. Marr to approve the January 18, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion passed 9 – 0 by roll call vote.

Mr. Marr made a motion seconded by Ms. Correia to approve the January 25, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion passed 8 – 0 by roll call vote. Mr. Currier abstained.

Correspondence

Mr. Marr noted the correspondence from the By-Law Study Committee and spoke on their plans for Fall Town Meeting.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43pm by Mr. Haddad.

Meeting materials are available at: <https://www.grafton-ma.gov/AgendaCenter/Finance-Committee-6>

A full recording of this meeting is available at: <https://youtu.be/YxTMJefyPEY>