

TOWN OF GILL

M A S S A C H U S E T T S



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SELECTBOARD & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 12, 2018

Called to Order: The Selectboard was called to order at 6:15 PM. The Finance Committee was called to order at 6:15 PM.

Selectboard Members Present: Randy Crochier, John Ward Members Absent: Greg Snedeker

Finance Committee Members Present: Claire Chang, Sandy Brown, Timmie Smith, Ronnie LaChance, Tupper Brown Members Absent: None

Others Present: Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant; Lynda Hodsdon Mayo, Town Clerk

Review of Minutes: There were no minutes ready for review.

An additional budget review meeting was scheduled for April 3rd at 7:00 PM.

Review of FY19 Budget Requests:

1.11 Town Clerk: Town Clerk Lynda Hodsdon Mayo explained the only increase to this budget for FY19 is an additional \$100 for travel related to training for the 2020 US Census. The total FY19 request of \$23,131 was approved unanimously by the Selectboard (2-0) and Finance Committee (5-0).

1.12 Elections: Hodsdon Mayo explained there will be two additional elections in FY19, a state primary in September and the state election in November. There will be state-mandated early voting, and based on the heavy volume of early voters in Gill during the 2016 Presidential election, Hodsdon Mayo is requesting coverage by election workers so that she attend to her regular work as the Assessors' Clerk and Town Clerk. The budget for FY19 includes 60 hours of early voting coverage at \$10/hour. The budgeted amount for election workers is up by \$2,372 and there is a \$2,200 increase for programming the voting machine. These increases are offset by a \$2,500 reduction in expenses for preservation of election minute books.

There was a brief discussion about changing Gill's town election from May to September or November (to coincide with a state election). Hodsdon Mayo stated the logistics and requirements of conducting a state election are too great to create any savings by combining the two elections. She also noted the Town's current voting booths are still working ok, and she is not requesting funds this year to replace them.

The total FY19 request of \$8,645 was approved unanimously by the Selectboard (2-0) and Finance Committee (5-0). Hodsdon Mayo left the meeting at 7:05 PM.

1.01 Moderator: The FY19 request of \$436 is \$101 higher than FY18. The increase is to provide funds for mileage reimbursement in case the new Moderator wants to attend training events. The budget was approved unanimously by the Selectboard (2-0) and Finance Committee (5-0).

1.02 Selectboard: The FY19 request is up by \$91 to \$11,870. During discussion it was decided to reduce the number of printed copies of the Annual Reports from 175 to 150. The budget will be revised to reflect this savings. The revised budget was approved unanimously by the Selectboard (2-0) and Finance Committee (5-0).

1.03 Administrative Assistant: The request for FY19 is level-funded from FY18. The budget was approved unanimously by the Selectboard (2-0) and Finance Committee (5-0).

1.04 Finance Committee & Reserve Fund: The request for FY19 is level-funded from FY18. The budget was approved unanimously by the Selectboard (2-0) and Finance Committee (5-0).

1.05 Accountant: The request for FY19 is level-funded from FY18. The budget was approved unanimously by the Selectboard (2-0) and Finance Committee (5-0).

1.09 Legal: The request for FY19 is level-funded from FY18. The budget was approved unanimously by the Selectboard (2-0) and Finance Committee (5-0).

1.15 Planning Board: The request for FY19 is level-funded from FY18. The budget was approved unanimously by the Selectboard (2-0) and Finance Committee (5-0).

1.16 Zoning Board of Appeals: The request for FY19 is level-funded from FY18. The budget was approved unanimously by the Selectboard (2-0) and Finance Committee (5-0).

1.17 Energy Resources Commission: The request for FY19 is level-funded from FY18. It was noted the popular energy workshop series went on hiatus in FY18 to allow the Commission time to focus on the Green Communities grant application. Claire suggested the energy savings from converting the streetlights to LEDs and converting the Riverside Building from oil heat to air-source heat pumps should be applied to the Energy Bond. The budget was approved unanimously by the Selectboard (2-0) and Finance Committee (5-0).

3.4 Street Lighting: The request for FY19 is level-funded from FY18. The budget was approved unanimously by the Selectboard (2-0) and Finance Committee (5-0).

8.0 Education: There was discussion of recently announced plans for the Gill-Montague Regional School District to add a School Resource Officer (SRO), with the District picking up 75% of the cost, and the Town of Montague picking up the remaining 25%. It was decided to forgo further discussion of the education budget until after the G-M School Committee has adopted its final budget, when Superintendent Sullivan will be invited to a Gill budget meeting to explain cuts made to the District's budget and the funding scheme for the SRO.

The Finance Committee and Selectboard adjourned their meetings at 8:00 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.

Signed copy on file. Approved on 05/10/2018

Greg Snedeker, Selectboard Clerk

Adopted by the Finance Committee in lieu of separate Finance Committee minutes on 05/10/2018.