

Town of Holliston Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2018

The meeting convened at 7:11pm in Room 105 at Holliston Town Hall. In attendance: Chairperson Ken Szajda, Vice Chairperson Michelle Zeamer, Tim Maxwell, Sue Nersessian, Dan Alfred and Vincent Murphy. Absent: Clerk Ben Sparrell.

The Committee discussed spreadsheets, including the timeframe for getting accurate FY19 costs for Benefits and Group Insurance, currently set at \$4,139,932 for Benefits and \$5,792,768 for Group Insurance.

Mr. Alfred began a discussion on the salary increase in the teachers' recently ratified labor contract which is twice what could be submitted under guideline. He suggested voting for a guideline budget. The Committee discussed the framework for this discussion, including the need for accurate numbers, implications for an override and inequity for departmental budgets held to guideline.

Ms. Zeamer made a motion that we recommend a wage table increase over FY18 by 2.5%. The motion was seconded by Mr. Murphy seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 6-0.

Further discussion of budget increases that are above guideline included allowing the increases in Accountant's office staff hours and a \$4,500 wage increase for Principal Assessor. Ms. Nersessian made a motion to convey to the Board of Selectmen that the Principal Assessor's wage be kept at same level due to recent increase. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 6-0. Above guideline increases in budgets for the Planning Board, Veterans' Affairs and Library discussed.

Mr. Szajda said the Committee would begin voting on budgets next week. He asked Committee to consider for discussion next week any other budget adjustments that may be needed.

Mr. Alfred made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Nersessian, and passed by a vote of 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:28pm.