

TOWN OF NORTH BROOKFIELD

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting of Wednesday, August 2, 2017
NB Police Station – Town Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

Present: Sheila Orsi, Chet Lubelczyk, Pete Dupell
Absent: Kristen Walther
Guest:

The Meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. by Sheila Orsi. Sheila chaired the meeting.

1. Meeting minutes were not available, postponed.
2. The Finance Committee discussed the current budgeting process. We are generally disappointed that many hours, meetings, discussion and calculations by the FC seem to be wasted by the fact that the town meeting budget agenda returns a larger deficit year after year. It has been mentioned at many meetings that the town is aware that this practice is not conducive to a balanced budget. Relying on the "free cash" or, in reality, the town's "surplus" year after year may land the Town of North Brookfield in a true deficit when the "free cash" does not cover the approved deficit budget one year. The Finance Committee is very nervous that this is a foreshadow of what may come to pass.
That said, we discussed, again, how to change the budget process to allow the Town of North Brookfield to regain control of its finances, rebuild the dwindling Stabilization Account and work towards a town plan for capital improvement including our school system.
3. We discussed the new idea of the proposed budget process for FY 19, mentioned in the May 31 FC meeting and calling in the BOS for discussion at one of the next FC meetings.
4. The School Committee process with negotiating a new Superintendent was brought up in conversation.
5. Our next meeting is scheduled for, September 6, 2017, each at 6:30 p.m. at the Police Station. Pete moved that we adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. and Chet seconded. The vote was unanimous to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila J Orsi

approved
9-20-17
Sheila, Pete
+ Chet