

Finance Committee Meeting held on February 10, 2021 @6:30 at Police Station

Present: Karen Kiley, Michelle Petraitis, Chet Lubelczyk, Tara Hayes, Robert Locatelli

Absent: April Hubacz

Guests: Dale Kiley, Dawn Thistle, Peg Bodine, Scott Norrie

Meeting was chaired by Karen called to order at 6:37

- Minutes were postponed
- Library
 - Peg Bodine as Chair of the Library Trustees spoke about the current payroll of the library staff and the work being done
 - Dawn spoke of the current environment in area libraries and North Brookfield
 - Rosemary Mackenzie, Children's Librarian, is retiring
 - Currently paid \$14.50/hour; Leicester just hired one at \$20.77/hour
 - New position would need a bachelor's degree, not necessarily a library degree
 - Position has grown to include virtual programming as well as the other programs offered
 - Other positions in the library are below area wages
 - See attachment
 - What about funding from the state
 - State gives ~\$8500 to be used for materials
 - 20% of total budget must be spent on materials to keep accreditation
 - Currently about \$21,600
 - How is this coming up now
 - Dawn is beginning her 3rd year as director
 - Fresh eyes looking at everything
 - Could grants be a solution
 - Grants are available for libraries but not for staffing
 - Is this something that could be phased in over 3 years
 - Dawn will look at everything with the Board of Trustees and come back with a phased approach
 - Building issues
 - Security system has ongoing issues
 - There are electrical issues
- Transfers
 - \$45.63 from BOS Town Office Expense to BOS Selectmen Advertising
 - To cover negative balance from many pole hearings
 - Can a revolving fund be set up for advertising & pole permits?
 - Pole money comes in and reimburses the advertising
- Kathleen Crevier completed paperwork to serve on FinComm as an alternate
 - Approved
- Bruce Arnold wording for article at Annual Town Meeting
 - Finance Committee has no opinion on the issue but it is very well written
- Downtown Development was going to discuss Complete Streets Project
 - Passed over until they come to us
- General discussion of budgets
 - Need to meet with departments to review
- Next meeting on February 25, 2021 @6:30
 - Invite Highway Department Superintendent
- Motion to adjourn at 7:57

Karen Kiley
2/25/21