

Original



FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF MAY 2, 2023, MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE: CHAIR JOE FREITAS, VICE CHAIR MATT CHABOT, MICHELE HAMILTON, TABITHA MCCROHAN

The Finance Committee will continue to ensure discipline, fairness, and transparency in the budget process by seeking budget input from all concerned. Inviting all departments and supervisors to a final public hearing on the FINCOM FY24 budget recommendation

The Finance Committee meeting of May 2, 2023, was called to order at 6:05 pm by chair Joe Freitas.

Chair Joe Freitas called for a motion to accept the minutes of April 25, 2023.

Motion was made by Matt Chabot to accept the minutes with minor adjustments and Michele Hamilton seconded the motion. A call for a vote was made and the committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes with minor adjustments.


The purpose of this meeting was the continuation of the 2024 Budget organization. Chair Joe Freitas and Finance Committee member Tabitha McCrohan have decided to throw their hats into the selectman's positions that are vacated as of May 6, 2023.

Due to the changes, Chair Joe Freitas brought to the table a discussion related to the legality of the election and the finance members' position on voting on the fiscal year 2024 budget. Chairperson Joe Freitas indicated he had reached out to the Town Council regarding their position and voting. Joe has not heard from them yet and after a brief discussion, until we hear from the Town Council, it would be best if Tabitha McCrohan did not vote, this would prevent her from losing her position on the ballot.

The Town Revenue that we discussed the possibility of changing (apart of Free Cash)

- Free cash is certified at \$1,144,750.00
- The fees are approximately \$50,000.00
- License & permits about \$125,000.00
- High School Stabilization \$2,779,717.00
- Fiscal Year 2023 Free Cash \$544,742.00
- County ARPA \$181,000.00
- Total of \$4,644,209.00 state monies \$18,889,166.00 plus \$4,644,209. The equates to our revenue at approximately \$23,533,375.00.

The above figures are subject to change and the committee works with the town employees to make sure our final numbers are accurate.


Michele K. Hamilton 05/15/23
05/15/23

We currently are not utilizing \$264,963.00 for additional equipment debt and this amount could be possible for fiscal year 2025 towards the Highway Department and Teachers.

Things we are working on.

We are waiting on the Fire Chief, Scott Fournier, who has put in for a grant to replace the ambulance. \$80,000.00 for a pickup truck for the Highway. Town residents are requesting \$1,000,000.00 for safety on our schools and buses. We are working with the Town Accountant to establish the correct numbers for fees, license and permits funds.

Fees that need to be discussed include the town operating fees, Debt exclusion; BP available funds: APRA; all contractual allocations and stabilization.

FY 2024 Revenue less Free Cash	\$22,804,670
FY 2023 Revenue less Free Cash	\$21,964,739
Revenue Growth	\$ 839,931
FY 2024 Expenses and Back charges	\$23,501,088
FY 2023 Expenses and Back charges	\$22,161,216
Cost Growth	\$ 1,339,872

We are working diligently to make sure that the budget that we put before the Town Selectmen for approval and Town of Berkley Community.

Chair Joe Freitas called for a motion to adjourn at 7:00 pm. Motion made by Tabitha Mccrohan and seconded by Matt Chabot. Call to vote, the committee voted unanimously to adjourn.