

**TOWN OF BERKLEY  
FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2019**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Chairman Joe Freitas, Secretary Michele, Nancy Gajoli, Melinda Paine-Dupont

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Joe Freitas.

Chairman Joe Freitas called for a motion to accept the minutes of April 22, 2019. Motion was made and seconded to accept finance committee minutes as written. A call for a vote was made by Mr. Freitas and the committee unanimously approved the minutes.

The purpose of this meeting was to present the Finance Committee FY 2020 recommended budget to all department heads.

Chairman Joe Freitas set up the budget for viewing on an overhead giving those in attendance.

- Mr. Freitas explained that all budgets under the guidance of Town Administrator Alan Coutinho are in agreement of the recommendations.
- Town Tax Collector/Treasure express concerns for the reduction of postage for next year. Indicated that these department's level funded from previous year budget and this reduction could have a negative impact on FY 2020.
- Highway Surveyor Robert Rose expressed his concerns regarding the Transfer Station and the additional cost to have our trash removed versus revenue coming in to support the Transfer Station and the impact on the Highway Department budget.
- With \$90,000 in Capital Improvements; grant for professional developments; couple of teachers leaving; library assistant move to full time has been cut; and increase of \$60,000 in health insurance played a major impact on the school budget. Superintendent Tom Lynch of the K-8 Berkley School System was in agreement to the recommended 3.4 % budget increase.
- Only cut with the COA (Council on Aging) was on postage. No other issues.
- In addition to other Library reductions it included a \$4,000 reduction in Salaries for Library Techs with a recommendation that these salaries could be paid through State Aid Funds received by the Library. Librarian Vicki Dawson, express her concern regarding this method of paying the difference via State Aid Funds. Also, Ms. Dawson indicated that the magic number needed to prevent a waiver was \$130,000. Budget provided is \$142,780.

Chairmen Joe Freitas called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:01pm. A motion was made and seconded. A call for a vote was made by Chairman Mr. Freitas and the committee unanimously approved the adjournment.

*Melinda Paine-Dupont + Michele Hamilton*  
*Nancy B Gajoli*  
*Joe Freitas 5/30/2019*