



TOWN OF BERKLEY FINANCE COMMITTEE

Meeting minutes of May 23, 2022

Finance committee meeting called to order at 6:01PM, Chairman Joe Freitas.

In attendance Chairman Joe Freitas, Matthew Chabot, Nancy Gajoli, Tabitha McCrohan, Michelle Hamilton.

Chairman Joe Freitas presented the FY 2023 budget. While trying to modernize our towns workforce and maintain quality with the current budget was difficult this year. The finance committee is recommending a 1.5% increase on elected positions salaries. As a committee we have level funded the collective bargaining salary line items due to ongoing negotiations.

At this time, we are presenting an unbalanced budget. We are hoping that we will be able to present a total budget in the November Town meeting after contract negotiations are completed. At this time we are recommending level funding from FY22 for then non ratified contracts. We are recommending using \$ 225,000 from free cash. The recommended Finance Committee budget totals \$ 21,027,963

The Finance Committee asked the Tree Warden for an amount of money that would satisfy adequate tree removal for the town. We were presented with a request of \$65,000. We recommended \$20,000, knowing this is a short fall but it is a step in the right direction.

Berkley K-8 requested an increase of 4.3% and the Finance Committee is recommending 2.1%.

Currently the budget is coming in around 1.2% more than FY22, keeping in mind that this is not including the current contract negotiations.

There is discussion on future budgets. It is the opinion of the Selectmen and the Finance Committee that we need to continue preparing for the large future costs of the schools. With the Bristol Plymouth new building and the possibility of the Community School.

The Finance Committee is prepared to present this budget on the Town Floor.

Chairman Joe Freitas called for a motion to adjourn. Michelle Hamilton made the motion and Matthew Chabot seconded.

All agreed to adjourn at 6:57PM.

Joe Freitas 6.6.2022
Nancy B Gajoli 6-6-2022
Matt Chabot 06/06/2022

