

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

MARCH 30, 2015

ATTENDANCE: CHAIRMAN; ED HOAK, NANCY GAJOLI, MICHELE HAMILTON, DEAN LARABEE, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS; THOMAS LYNCH, SELECTMAN; WENDY COCHRANE, TOWN ASSESSOR; MARK PETTEY, TOWN ACCOUNTANT; KATHY AVILLA.

*LOCATION: BERKLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARY*

### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN, ED HOAK, AT 6:31**

*This meeting was called and serves as the annual budget hearing for Berkley Public Schools, Assessor, Accountant, miscellaneous and tax title.*

REVIEW OF MINUTES: Minutes of March 16, 2015 were reviewed and amended. Minutes approved as amended.

PUBLIC HEARING - SCHOOLS (K8), LINE 300: The budget presented in January was amended at the last school committee meeting. The original figure presented in January was \$ 8,792,720 and was replaced by \$ 9,213,155. This figure includes 8 positions that were eliminated in years past. The state may consider an increase in Chapter 70. The lesser budget is level funded, but a preschool teacher is moving back to the main budget from the preschool account. \$ 100,000 roughly is the cost of operating preschool. 75 total students in preschool at present.

PUBLIC HEARING - ASSESSOR, LINE 141: The proposed budget is showing a slight increase overall with offsets coming from personnel changes and reductions in tax maintenance. Most of the projected expenses are computers and equipment. There is a technology budget available through the construction budget that may help alleviate the computer costs.

PUBLIC HEARING - ACCOUNTANT, LINE 135: Slight increase in personnel and a slight increase in expenses.

PUBLIC HEARING - MISC, LINE 940: Audit line is down slightly, the town fuel account is flat and the lease for next year is \$ 68,176. The main software account is \$ 23,300 and the expected internet cost is \$ 15,000. Borrowing costs are \$ 0 for next year. IMC Software is the flat. Contract negotiations will be \$ 500. \_

PUBLIC HEARING - TAX TITLE, LINE 158: No change.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM.**

*The next meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2015 at 6:30 PM.*