

Event Details

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Finance Committee

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Date: March 12, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Community Meeting Room

Address: Douglas Municipal Center
29 Depot St.
Douglas, MA 01516

Douglas Finance Committee Agenda

Town Hall, Community Room

Depot Street, Douglas MA

March 12, 2024

7:00 p.m.

1. Call to order
2. Budget presentations:
 - a. Police
 - b. Highway
 - c. Fire/Ambulance
 - d. Library
3. Town administrator report: budget overview, process, etc.
4. FinCom budget discussion
5. Minutes of FinCom meetings:

- a. January 23, 2024
- b. January 30, 2024
- 6. Upcoming schedule:
 - a. March 26:
 - i. Capital Improvement (6:30 p.m. in Community Room)
 - ii. Matt B: Community Development
 - b. April 9: public hearing regarding the warrant for the town meeting
 - c. Town meeting is May 6, 2024
- 7. Open session for topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance
- 8. Adjournment

Douglas

MASSACHUSETTS

CONTACT

The Town of Douglas

Municipal Center

29 Depot Street

Douglas, MA 01516

[Contact Us](#)

FINANCE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024
COMMUNITY ROOM

Attendance: Chair Dick Vandenberg, Vice chair Sandy Kuipers, Howard D'Amico, Lynne Mussulli, Heather Morin, Carol Gogolinski

Absent: Ryan Hogan, Mike Hutnak (both excused)

Dick Vandenberg called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. Budget Presentations:
 - a. (0:30 TS) Police – Police chief Nick Miglionico and Lieutenant Travis Gould to go through their budget and answer questions. The salary total is \$2,128,311.00 and total budget is \$2,469,506.00. They talked about their needs employee wise and regarding expenses.
 - b. (17:15 TS) Highway – Adam Furno the acting highway superintendent and the maintenance manager to discuss his budget. He discussed the new hires and the training they have to receive. He talked about the paving projects and finishing up South St this year and then move on to Northwest Main St from Church St to Wallis St., and the following year work on Southwest Main St.
 - c. (27:45 TS) Building Maintenance – The big change is proposing to hire back a full-time maintenance manager.
 - d. (35:25 TS) Fire/Ambulance – Fire chief John Furno and assistance chief Kelly Manning were present to discuss their budgets. They went over what the increases were and why they felt they needed them. They discussed the vehicles and the status of them in terms of condition and what is coming up for replacement or repairs.
 - e. (54:35 TS) Library – Justin Snook the library director discussed the library budget and why he is asking for an extra \$100k and showed all the surrounding towns and their libraries. He went through the budget lines and increases. Mr. Snook and the Committee discussed the library building and what they have been working on for grants and making the facility handicapped accessible.
Mr. Wojcik will pass around his updated budget and wanted to mention that the both the library and the Adult Social Center have experienced extraordinary growth and demand and are out growing the buildings they are in. There will need to be a serious conversation about the town's comprehensive community plan and about what is next for both of those institutions.
2. (1:22:55 TS) Town Administrator Report: Budget Overview, Process, etc.
Mr. Wojcik talked about the BVT requests and the roof project that if it gets approved it is in the best interest of the town to have it be excluded debt and excluded debt can only be voted by the taxpayers at the ballot and town meeting. He stated that the majority of the \$10 million will be going to the HVAC units and not the roof. Mr. Wojcik talked about health insurance and what he is suggesting for the town to do with the rates.
3. (1:41:40 TS) Meeting Minutes:
 - (1:43:00 TS) Motion to approve the meeting minutes of January 23, 2024, as amended made by Howard D'Amico, 2nd by Heather Morin. Carol Gogolinski abstained, and all the other members voted in favor.
 - (1:43:40 TS) Motion to approve the January 30, 2024, as written made by Sandy Kuipers, 2nd by Lynne Mussulli. Dick Vandenberg abstained, and all the other members voted in favor.

APPROVED
JUNE 25, 2024

Upcoming Meetings: March 26, 2024 @ 6:30, going over the draft warrant. That meeting will be Capital, Community Development and Water/Sewer. Town meeting is May 6, 2024

(1:48:15 TS) Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Sandy Kuipers, 2nd by Lynne Mussulli. The vote passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephenie Gosselin