

YARMOUTH FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Yarmouth Town Hall, Room A
March 11, 2015

Present: Joseph Goldstein, Chair, Cathy Romboli, Vice Chair/Clerk, Nathan Ladley, Phillip Morris, Robert Ciavarra, Jack Moylan

Administration: William Hinchey, Town Administrator; Ed Senteio, Director of Finance

Guests: Robert Sanborn, Superintendent-Director, Cape Cod Regional Technical High School; Chris Greeley, Cape Cod Regional Technical High School Committee Member, John Hannon, Cape Cod Regional Technical High School Committee Member

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Goldstein, Chair, at 6:33 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Mr. Goldstein noted that the next meeting on March 18, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., Room A, Yarmouth Town Hall, will be the last meeting the Committee will have before meeting with the Selectmen Tuesday, March 24, 2015, at 6 p.m. Next week the YFC will discuss how they will present its recommendations on March 24th. The DY Schools will present their budget also next week. Mr. Goldstein asked that Mr. Morris excuse himself from that discussion, as he is an elected member of the School Committee. The Committee will review CPA Article 26 on March 18, 2015.

TRANSFERS: There were no transfers at this meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

ARTICLES 7 AND 8: CC REGIONAL TECH ASSESSMENT AND STABILIZATION

Mr. Robert Sanborn, Superintendent-Director, Cape Cod Regional Technical High School handed out two information packets: 1) Cape Cod Regional Technical High School FY 16 Budget Presentation, Yarmouth Board of Selectmen, March 10, 2015 and 2) Cape Cod Regional Technical High School Proposed FY16 Budget Expenses, FY13 Actual, FY14 Actual, FY15 Budget, FY16 Budget Proposed, %, and Other Funds.

Mr. Sanborn reviewed the CCRT FY16 Budget Presentation. Yarmouth students in FY15 represent 25.2% of the enrollment or 163 students. Enrollment is determined October 1 each year. Enrollment was down 5 students from FY14 in FY15. In the year 2006 enrollment was 720. The total Operating and Capital Budget for FY16 is \$14,532,300, which represents a 4.49% increase over FY15. A transfer to the CCRT Stabilization Fund of \$250,000 represents 1.82% of the 4.49% increase in the budget; the increase without the transfer is 2.67%. Mr. Sanborn outlined the projected cost for FY16 of unique cost to the budget: Insurances (property, liability, health, dental, unemployment, workers compensation and other fringe benefits) of \$2,369,345; Snow Removal and Sanding of \$20,000; School Resource Officer, \$20,000; Equipment Maintenance, \$118,000; and Capital Building Improvements of \$625,000. These unique costs represent 21.7% of the total budget. The Capital Stabilization Fund was established in FY14, and the proposed budget transfer in FY16 is \$250,000, or a 1.82 increase over FY15. Mr. Sanborn said that heating and utilities represented a 36.98% increase from FY15 to FY16; transportation, 16.27% increase; insurance, 10.29%; salaries and benefits, which represent 72% of the budget, 3.54%. It costs \$118.13 to educate a child each day in FY15, \$124.80 in FY16. The balance in the Excess and Deficiency as of FY14 was \$572,121.

On 1/14/15 Cape Cod Regional Technical High School was invited into the Eligibility Period for a Capital Project with the Mass School Building Authority for a period of 270 days concluding on or before 10/26/15. A School Building Committee must be formed, an Education Profile must be completed,

enrollment projections need to be prepared, and a maintenance capital planning report is needed, as well as local votes and agreements. Phase 2, Feasibility and Schematic Design and the selection of OPM & Design firm, will be the next step. Mr. Sanborn said that CCRT has inferior space for many of its programs. He also responded to a question about the transportation costs from Mr. Goldstein, explaining that there will be reimbursement from the State of \$350,000 of the total \$786,000 total transportation costs, leaving net transportation costs of \$436,000. CCRT is in the first year of a 5-year contract with Cape Destinations.

Mr. Hinchey explained that Articles 7 and 8 have been combined into one, and the \$65,000 set aside from Free Cash for CCRT Stabilization is included in the one Article for the CCRT Budget Assessment.

Mr. Sanborn mentioned that there is a new certification for teachers of ELL students with the DESE, and that there have been difficulties in certifying the teachers all in one year. High needs students, consisting of ELL, low income and special needs students, account for 54% of the student population.

MOTION: To recommend the Cape Cod Regional Technical High School FY16 Budget Assessment of \$2,973,817.

Motion by: Mr. Moylan

Seconded by: Mr. Morris

Vote: 6-0-0

March 19, 2015 CCRT is having a job fair. CCRT is looking for volunteers for their Building Committee.

CPA ARTICLES: Pat Armstrong will be invited to present Article 26 next week.

MOTION: To recommend all the CPA Articles other than Article 26, which will be withheld until March 18, 2015.

Motion by: Mr. Goldstein

Seconded by: Mr. Morris

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Hinchey said that Articles 1 (Supplemental) and 18 (Stabilization) were not ready to vote on at this meeting. He suggested that these Articles be postponed until April 1, when the Snow and Ice and Police and Fire budgets will be finalized. Stabilization is contingent on how much remains in Free Cash. Mr. Hinchey is hopeful that Stabilization can reach \$2 million in FY16.

ARTICLE 16: FREE CASH GRANTS: Free Cash Grants had been used to supplement the Operating Budget in the past, but now the Selectmen want the Town to curtail the use of Free Cash for the Operating Budget. There are two areas remaining in the Operating Budget that are suggested for the use of Free Cash: 1) Police, Fire, Medical and 2) COLA's. Police, Fire and Medical was \$40,000 last year for injuries not covered by insurance. This year the budgeted figure for Police, Fire and Medical is \$25,000. We do not have the money for COLA's; the Town is offering lump sum payments in lieu of COLA's from Free Cash in the amount of \$90,000.

Hiring a consultant to assist with the Local Comprehensive Plan, has been removed from funding consideration due to the extraordinary snow removal costs this winter, and the need to maintain some small amount of free cash to supplement the Town's Stabilization Fund.

MOTION: To recommend Article 16 totaling \$115,000.

Motion by: Mr. Moylan

Seconded by: Mrs. Romboli

Vote: 6-0-0

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE:

Mr. Hinchey discussed deficit spending.

The Hotel Motel Tax Article (Article #22) has been withdrawn by from the Warrant.

Mr. Hinchey reported that the Governor has given the Schools more money, but the increase in the Assessment from the Schools has offset the increase and created a net loss to the Schools and the Town.

There is a hearing on March 24 where the Town will make an introductory budget presentation, followed by a presentation by the School Committee, then the Capital Budget Committee, then the Finance Committee will present its recommendations.

MINUTES:

Mrs. Romboli noted that the CPA Articles were an addendum to the minutes.

MOTION: To accept the minutes as presented and corrected.

Motion by: Mr. Morris

Seconded by: Mr. Moylan

Vote: 6-0-0

Mr. Ciavarra suggested that a record of hours spent on discussion and recommendation of the budget and Warrant Articles be compiled for January, February and March.

ADJOURN:

MOTION: To adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

Motion by: Mrs. Romboli

Seconded by: Mr. Moylan

Vote: 6-0-0

Respectfully submitted,



Grace E. Buckler
Recording Secretary
Yarmouth Finance Committee