

**TOWN OF MILLVILLE
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

MINUTES OF MEETING

April 24, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.

Board Members Present: Chairman, Paul Ouellette; Vice Chairman, Michael Foster, Clerk, Brian Pacheco; Member, Erica Blake

Board Members Absent: None

Finance Committee Chairman Paul Ouellette called meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Budget Review

Committee was joined by the Town Admin Jennifer Callahan, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Joe Rapoza, Town Accountant Justin Cole, and the BMR School Committee to discuss the town's contribution to the school. Chairman Ouellette began the discussion with an update on the budget deficit and that there needs to be a shared sacrifice among the town departments and the school in conjunction with using stabilization to address the 8.6% (\$535,112) deficit. Chairman Rapoza showed a chart of the town's free cash and how it has deteriorated in the last few fiscal years and that if it continues the town may be forced into receivership or state control. BMR School Committee Chairwoman Jane Reggio illustrated the severe difficulties the school committee is facing with their certified budget and that the town's reduced contribution from their certified school budget was not feasible. Town Accountant illustrated the fact that if Millville is forced to fund the full ask from BMRSD it would exhaust all reserves and leave the town in a very precarious position going into next fiscal year. Town Admin is going to reach out to Blackstone's Town Admin and Board of Selectman to see if there is a compromise middle ground both towns can agree upon prior to Town Meeting. Town Admin and Town Accountant will also work further with other departments to see if there is any more room in their budgets for cost savings. On a long term basis the Finance Committee, Town Admin, Town Accountant, and BMR School Committee members all agree that a planned strategic approach to an operational override needs to be constructed and proposed to the townspeople. Overall the meeting was very constructive and continues the Finance Committee's initiative of an open and transparent dialogue with town departments especially the School Committee. The next meeting is set for Monday May 1st when the Finance Committee will hold a joint Board of Selectmen Finance Committee meeting to discuss warrants for the Annual Town Meeting on May 8th.

Department Budgets

No further department budgets were approved at this meeting.

Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2017 meeting minutes were reviewed.

On motion by M.Foster, second by B.Pacheco, the Committee votes unanimously to approve the Meeting Minutes from the April 20, 2017 meeting.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING ADJOURNMENT

On motion by M. Foster, second by B.Pacheco, the Committee votes unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Brian Pacheco, Clerk


Approved By Finance Committee:




Paul Ouellette, Chairman



Mike Foster, Vice Chairman



Brian Pacheco, Clerk



Erica Blake, Member

REC JAN 18 2018

AM 7:45:06


TOWN CLERK