

11/8/2023 -- Oakham, MA. Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:02pm. Attending are Steve Dollinger, Corey Packard and Alan Flagg.

There are no public comments or inquiries. We do have new correspondence from the Police Chief that will be discussed as part of new business.

Prospective new FinCom member has dialed in to review a FinCom meeting prior to deciding if he would like to apply to become a member of the FinCom.

FY2024 YTD Actual Expenses vs Budget:

A few items from our review of the FY2024 YTD Actual Expenses vs Budget are highlighted and discussed.

Description	Budget Amount	YTD Amount	YTD Var	Available	% Available
Fire / Training Wages	0.00	5,719.05	-5,719.05	-5,719.05	0.00
Ambulance / Part-Time Salaries	0.00	298.56	-298.56	-298.56	0.00
COA / Director Stipend	10,300.00	0.00	10,300.00	10,300.00	100.00
COA / Nutrition Program	2,400.00	2,050.00	350.00	350.00	14.58
Library / Part-Time Wages	27,805.40	21,232.86	6,572.54	6,572.54	23.64

It appears the COA Director is being paid from a 2022 ATM account set up as part of the search for a director, but it has no funding. Steve comments the Fire Dept charges may be tied to a grant. We have no information on why the library is running ahead on PT wages. FinCom Chair will reach out to the COA, Fire Chief and Library for explanations.

FY2025 Budget items:

We review the FY24 budget guideline letter from the BOS and a draft of some changes we would like to ask the BOS to make to the FY25 meeting. All members to review the first draft and respond with any changes and a final version will be sent to the BOS in time for their next meeting.

Corey advised that he and Susanne have been in communication to have the 3-year history in this year's budget distribution to the town.

New Business:

Free Cash has been certified at \$447,845.00, the prior year was just under \$500,000.

The STM is 12/11/23. Warrant issued on 10/30/23 and closes on Fri Nov 10th. Fin Com has reminded BOS to include the article left off the ATM for the three-year revaluation by the assessors.

The Police Chief made a formal request for an additional \$6,249.00 for PT wages. At the recent BOS meeting I advised the BOS that the BOS and FinCom had both missed the target for PT staffing hours. We only funded 27 hours for PT not 32 as all previously agreed as the needed hours. Based on this calculation the PT budget is under funded by just under \$5,000. Chief explained he had some unanticipated expenses

mostly due to officers having to be in court. BOS agreed to place an article on the STM warrant to increase the PT wages in the amount of \$6,249.00. FinCom votes unanimously to endorse the recommendation.

Old Business:

No old business to discuss this week.

Minutes from the 10/11/23 FinCom meeting are approved.

The meeting adjourned at 6:32pm.