

Westhampton Finance Committee Meeting Minutes  
March 3, 2020

Meeting opened at 7:03

Present: Tom Cleary (chair), Peter Montague, Mary Cleary, Steve Holt, Sarah Mulvehill, Tad Weiss, Pat Miller, Andrew Klyman, and Chevy Seney (secretary)

Also Present: Kristen Smidy (Principal HRHS), Dean Bates (Principal WES), Bobbie Jones (Business Administrator Hampshire Regional District), members of both WES and HRHS School Committees, and Dave Sikorski (Assessors)

Motion to accept the minutes from the February 25, 2020 meeting was approved.      Vote: 8-0-0

## **FY21 Budget Planning**

### **Schools**

Principal Smidy presented the FY21 budget proposal for Hampshire Regional. Some operational proposals that were highlighted were:

- The need for an Athletic Trainer at practices, as well as at actual sporting events.
- Addition of a Lacrosse Team.
- Addition of a Field Hockey Team
- AP Exam Fees to be covered by the district.
- An increase in Textbook expenses.

Westhampton's share of the assessment for Hampshire Regional is projected to increase 8.40%.

There will be a separate warrant article for Hampshire Regional Capital Expense.

Westhampton's share of the Capital Expense request for HRHS is \$43,148 (13.40% of total assessment).

Principal Smidy reviewed the capital expense items included the FY21 request.

- Heating/Cooling System Maintenance and Upgrades
- Safety Upgrades
- Water Tank Repair
- Sidewalk Repair
- Locker Upgrades
- Field Irrigation

Principal Bates provided a budget narrative for Westhampton Elementary. Highlights of FY21 requests are:

- Replacement of gym and cafeteria doors.
- Repair or replacement of boys' bathroom floor.
- Addition of a half-time Behavior Interventionist

Bobbie Jones answered questions regarding Free Cash. She, also, indicated that the Town's share of Central Office expenditures will decrease. Committee members sought clarification as to the impact of separating the Operational and Capital expenses, specifically in regards to the votes of other towns in the district.

### **Assessors**

Dave Zagorski (Assessor) discussed key items regarding FY21 budget planning.

- FY21 will be a re-evaluation year, therefore the request for Line 12 increased to \$15,000.
- The department is seeking to convert from Tyler to Vision as the system they wish to use to complete assessments. This conversion is projected to cost \$25,000 in total. That cost can be split over two years. Therefore, Line 13 is requested to be \$12,500 for FY21.
- Clarification with the Town Accountant is needed as to whether any of past "Field Rev Conversion" money is available for FY21 budget planning.

### **Upcoming Presentations**

- Town Clerk
- Fire and EMS

Next Meeting: March 10, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 9:11 passed.

Vote: 9-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Chevy Seney