

Westhampton Finance Committee Meeting Minutes  
March 27, 2018

Meeting opened at 7:00 pm

Present: Tom Cleary (chair), Mary Cleary, Peter Montague, Steve Gagne, Jackie Brodeur, Steve Holt, Joe Pipczynski, and Chevy Seney (secretary)

Motion to accept minutes from the March 6th meeting was approved.      Vote: 6-0-1

Correspondence: *The Beacon* was available for review.

New Business

The Building Inspector, Thomas Quinlan, presented FY19 budget proposals.

- He responded to questions about permits and fees.
- He explained the travel stipend that is included in this department's expenses.
- Note was made about the increase in training costs for electrical.
- A member of the ZBA spoke in support of efforts by the building inspector.

Principal Smidy presented the FY19 budget for Hampshire Regional School.

The four highlighted increases in the FY19 budget are:

- Almost half of FY19 increase can be attributed to \$272,000 increase in insurance.
- Contractual raises; an increase of \$77,641.
- Increase in school adjustment counselor time from 0.6 to full time. This increase of \$30,756 is to support an in-house transition program for students.
- An additional van driver for increased in-house transport; \$32,425.

Principal Bates shared information regarding:

- A proposal for an energy efficiency retrofit for lighting at Westhampton Elementary School. The request for this project is \$64,000 with an approximate four year buy-back. This expense may be possible to split between FY18 and FY19. More information will be available by the beginning of May.
- The FY19 WES budget.

The committee asked Administrative Assistant, Cheryl Provost, for a copy of the log of records requests.

The committee is exploring the possibility of prepaying debt in an attempt to maintain a “level tax rate.”

In preparation for deliberations, the committee requested that Town Budget spreadsheet:

- Up-date the column for the percent change for each line.
- Add a column that indicates the actual change in dollar amount for each line.

Next Meeting: April 3, 2018 at **7:00**

Motion to Adjourn at 9:00 was approved. Vote 8-0-0

Respectfully submitted,  
Chevy Seney