

COMMITTEE OF THE CHAIRS
Special Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.
Town Hall – Finance Department Conference Room

Present: Christopher Palmieri, Town Manager Mark Sciota, Brian Goralski, John Leary (via teleconference), Michael DelSanto, and Timothy Connellan
Also: Sherri DiNello

Call to Order

Chairman Palmieri called the meeting to order at 4:35.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the April 4th, 2018 meeting subject to the email received by Chairman Gorlaski. Chairman Gorlaski would prefer the language to read “the mitigation plan does not impact the safety of the school but does not allow us to improve our cameras.” The motion was seconded and approved.

Board Communications

TM Mark Sciota would like to thank Emilia and Sherri for working closely along with the Superintendent on the documents that will be presented today.

Chairman Palmieri thanked the Town Manager as well as the Superintendent.

Items for Discussion

Deficit Mitigation Plan for 2017-2018 Budget

Chairman Palmieri stated this is the email that was sent prior to the meeting for review/discussion.

TM Mark Sciota will discuss the first half of the email/document. The Town did not receive \$8,080,841. The shortfalls based upon the actual funding the Town was \$761,360. The BOE was \$4,318,681 for a total of \$5,080,041. Of that it was decided with an agreement between the BOF, BOE, TC, TM office, that we would divide the \$3 million dollar state deficit contingency, not to be confused with the Town contingency. Town -\$450,000 and BOE- \$2,550,000 totaling \$3 million.

Shortfall on the budget:

Town - \$311,360 and BOE - \$1,768,681 total shortfall is \$2,080,041.

As part of the deficit mitigation plan on the Town side, the BOF with agreement with the TC and the BOE, the Town will mitigate 25%. This equals \$525,000 and at a future meeting which I am recommending on May 16th, the Town will then send to the BOE through an appropriation in the sum of \$213,640, leaving a zero exposure to the Town and \$1,555,041 on the BOE side.

The shortfall for the Town is \$311,360 the Town through an agreement will mitigate \$525,000 therefore there is extra money of \$213,640, which an appropriation will be given to the BOE to help with their shortfall of \$1,768,681.

Sherri DiNello stated in reference to the second document, \$1.3 million is made up of the two numbers (678,806 and 637,200).

An error was discovered in the document, the \$65,000 is a negative not a positive. The bottom line is now **\$261,510** (BOE shortfall). The 20,752 should be an additional cost not savings.

Special Education tuition cost increased, \$269,000. We had saving in our ABA program. With that change of that \$65,000 from a positive to a negative the bottom line number is now **\$261,510**. The previous document that the TM shared, \$107,525 that is shown as additional savings, should actually be additional cost of \$22,475, which would be a negative ending with a balance of a shortfall of **\$261,510**.

The capital options that are listed consist of two capital items; the elevator and security as well as three other items which they are dollars available. Projects we were planning to move forward with but in the effort of transparency and full disclosure that money (\$44,200) has not been spent it could potential put towards the deficit of \$261,510.

Sherri DiNello has been working with Eversource as well as Titan Energy. A discrepancy in the invoices for electricity for DePaolo vs. Kennedy. There is an issue with the meter and a credit should be received, unsure of timing.

Chairman Palmieri concerned with elevator, proposing also will make a suggestion to the BOF from our \$450,000 we take out \$263,000 of that, assuming no further cuts from state leaving a balance for \$187,000 in Towns portion and allocating to the BOE. Leaving the BOE a shortfall of still **\$74,510**.

TM Mark Sciota suggest to John Leary at the 16th BOF meeting three motions be made; 1. The last \$850,000 of the 3mil for the BOE. 2. I would like to allocate \$213,640 to the BOE 3. \$450,000 allocates \$187,000 to BOE the rest into road projects for the Town. 187,000 will be used to offset the funding.

Chairman Leary suggests listing all the steps and where it will bring us so a plan is in place.

Chairman Palmieri suggest to John Leary the BOE meet on the 9th so there is closure prior to the Town Council meets and votes on the 2018-2019 budget.

Sherri DiNello stated she would hope the appropriations go forward and would like to wait for the BOF meeting in June in regards to the last appropriation request. Hoping to have some of the items flush out and a better understand of where the budget projection is.

Chairman Goralski stated he is very impressed with TM Mark Sciota and the work he has done with Tim and the way everyone collaborated together.

2018-2019 Budget

TM Mark Sciota stated both the BOE and BOF had public hearings, we expect action on the 14th and the BOF on the 16th we will set the mil rate.

Chairman Palmieri thanks John and entire BOF for their work in turning over the budget.

Chairman Leary stated this time it just worked it was a complicated budget with large changes.

TM Mark Sciota informed everyone he was notified the numbers were reduced by \$86k and change for next FY. The million that was in reserve is now down to \$900k and change.

Chairman Connellan stated there is a ten year plan which the formula does change based on population.

Update on Referendums

TM Mark Sciota stated the public hearings will be on the 29th. If approved by the town council they will move forward to the November election. TM praised the Planning & Zoning Commission, his staff, Attorney Futtner, and the BOE board for coming up with a plan that is beneficial to the Town on a difficult case.

Public Communications

None

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn at 5:14p.m.