

Shutesbury Finance Committee Minutes
Tuesday, March 19, 2019 – Town Hall, 7pm

Members Present: Eric Stocker, Weezie Houle, Rita Farrell, Bob Groves, Jim Walton George Arvanitis and Jim Hemingway **Members Absent:** **Non-Members present:** Becky Torres, Steve Sullivan, Ellen McKay, Dan Fernandez, Michael Broad, Walter Tibbetts

- 1) Review Police Budget
 - a) Operating - Budget will remain level funded
 - b) Cruiser Maintenance – Level funded
 - c) The Taurus transfer case blew up. It is getting fixed under warrantee.
 - d) Police Wages -
 1. Regular pay – is for 3 totaling \$122,278.24
 2. Overtime Average over the past five years has been about \$5,000. The budget is the worst-case scenario. That is what is budgeted.
 3. Holiday Payoff / time off– The budget is the worst-case scenario. \$5,067. Each of their wages at their regular wages. This is contractual.
 4. Night Shift Diff – We can shave off about \$500 off the \$4,161.
 5. Cell Phone stipend went up this year to \$780 per FTE.
 6. If we decrease the Salary line requested by \$5,500 to \$132,998, Fin Comm acknowledges that Chief Dan is welcome to come back to Fin Comm for Overtime wages.
 7. Chief would like to send someone to the Academy with the goal to put them on a waiver for 8 months, allowing them to work full-time. The costs are \$3,000 for the Academy Tuition, plus expenses, plus \$12,000 for wages. We have savings from Tom’s salary and other overages.
 - e) His goal for the department is retention.
- 2) Capital Planning –They have no information on the school roof at this time.
 - a) \$25,000 New Library Fund
 - b) \$2,082 School Pre-School playground retaining wall
 - c) \$4,100 - Fire Department – Turnout gear washer
 - d) \$1,599 - Fire Department – Turnout gear dryer
 - e) \$64,354 – Fire Department Ford F500 Crew Cab 4 x 4 chassis. The project will include swapping the body, and using the old chassis to create a new flatbed brush truck.
 - f) \$97,136 Total Capital Planning Requests
- 3) Motion passed 4 in favor and 3 against to accept the Capital Planning Recommendation requests.
- 4) Funding for the Capital Planning
 - a) \$25,000 New Library Fund – In the Budget
 - b) \$2,082 School Pre-School playground retaining wall – Free Cash
 - c) \$4,100 - Fire Department – Turnout gear washer – Free Cash
 - d) \$1,599 - Fire Department – Turnout gear dryer – Free Cash
 - e) \$64,354 – Fire Department Ford F500 Crew Cab 4 x 4 chassis. The project will include swapping the body, and using the old chassis to create a new flatbed brush truck. – Capital Stabilization
- 5) Motion passed 5 in favor and 2 against to pass to fund \$25,000 for the New Library Fund through the new Operating Budget.
- 6) Motion passed unanimously to fund the \$2,082 Retaining Wall with Free Cash.
- 7) Motion passed 5 in favor and 2 against to fund \$5,699 for the Fire Department washer and dryer with Free Cash.
- 8) Motion passed 5 in favor and 2 against to fund the \$64,354 – Fire Department Ford F500 Crew Cab 4 x 4 chassis with Capital Stabilization.

- 9) Motion passed unanimously to approve the minutes from March 5, 2019 as amended.
- 10) Review the Draft Budget
 - a) Revenue
 1. Excess Levy Capacity was estimated at -\$200,291. When the Assessors calculated it on the Recap the number changed to \$165,575, allowing us to increase the Expenses by \$34,716.
 2. Broadband Bond is \$50,970. Becky will have better numbers on this line next week. It will be at least \$17,000 more.
 - b) Expenses – Changes in this iteration
 1. Reductions in Retirement and Health Insurance.
 2. Reductions in the Police Wages.
- 11) Motion passed unanimously to fund \$3,000 from Fin Comm Reserves for the Legal.
- 12) Motion passed unanimously to fund \$5,100 from Fin Comm Reserves for the LWAC.
- 13) Meeting adjourned 9:30pm
- 14) Future Meeting Schedule:
 - a) Wednesday, March 20, 2019, Personnel, Select Board
 - b) Tuesday, March 26, 2019, Special Town Meeting
 - c) Tuesday, April 2, 2019, Vote on Warrants if ready
 - d) Tuesday, April 16, 2019, Town Meeting Initial Prep
 - e) Tuesday, April 30, 2019, Town Meeting Final Prep
 - f) Saturday, May 5, 2019, Town Meeting