

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE RTM FINANCE & BUDGET COMMITTEE

MONDAY, January 6, 2020

PLACE: Room 119
DARIEN TOWN HALL
ROOM 7:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order:** Jack Davis, Chair, at 7:30 p.m.

Committee Members Attendance:

	Mark Adiletta	Barry Baldwin	Martha Banks	Luisa Brakman	Jack Davis	Mike Heitz	James Howe	Elizabeth Lane	Robert Lyons
Present	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Absent							X		

	Iris Mix	Peter Orphanos	Brad Pattelli	Jennifer Schwartz	Bill Smith	Stacey Tie	Bert Von Stuelpnagel	Lisa Yarnell
Present	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
Absent		X						

15 Present and 2 Absent. Needed for Quorum: 9. Quorum attained.

2. **Other Attendees Present:** NONE

3. **Chairperson's Report:** Jack Davis provided an update as to the Superintendent's proposed BOE 2019-2020 budget and upcoming review schedule including F&B's 01/21/2020 presentation to the BOE. All are encouraged to watch meeting videos and to timely send comments to Beth and Peter.

4. **Discussion:** points covered included: i) Bert shared his observations as to differences between corporate and government budgeting processes and the importance of having current actual amounts on which budgeted amounts should be grounded. Also reviewed was a tabulation of BOE amounts returned to the Town in PYs. ii) Jack noted a few "pockets of flexibility" (including "salary/operation" account transfers and their regulation definition) and related them in terms of basis point impact on the Town mill rate; iii) Jack summarized the Superintendent's 01/02/20 Budget Overview presentation to the BOE and noted that the three budget drivers behind the 3.46% proposed increase are: a) health care cost increases, b) excess cost reimbursement fluctuations, and c) salary increases.

To help gauge a preliminary sense of the Committee, Jack asked each member for his or her comments and reactions. Aside from IM expressing her wish that the BOE adhere to the BOF's 3% guidance and while no significant objections were expressed, many members questioned or noted specific matters including those relating to: power usage and pay-off assumptions, transportation coordinator request, budget controls, technology (e.g., Chrome books), pooled purchasing of services including health care premiums, energy and consultants, and lastly, excess cost reimbursements.

5. Motion to Adjourn:

MOVED: Ms. Tie
2ND Ms. Yarnell

Result: Motion Passed (15-0-0)

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Heitz, Clerk

Date: 01.06.2020