

**Andover Board of Finance
Public Hearing
Wednesday, April 20, 2016
7:PM-Community Room
17 School Road**

Minutes

BOF Members: Present:

Dan Warren, Board Chair, Linda Fish, Georgette Conrad, Eric Shevchenko, CIP Representative, Adrian Mandeville, Jeff Murray

Absent: Nathaniel Houle

Staff Present:

Sandra Nichols, Board Clerk

Other Attendees: Attachment #1

Agenda Items 1&2: Call to Order: Dan Warren, Board Chair, called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 7:01PM

Agenda Item 3: Presentation of the 2016-2017 Town of Andover Budget:

Dan Warren begins with a brief explanation of what is in the budget and states that

there will be a final meeting on May 5th at 7PM in the Community Room and any comments made tonight will be taken into consideration. He then thanks each member of the Board of Finance for all their work on the budget. He also

thanks

the Board of Selectman and the Superintendent of Schools that helped in

putting

this budget together. He summarizes that budget is approximately \$2.5

million

Dollars that does not include funds that the Town has to fund specific projects.

He goes

On to speak on the Town's elementary was ranked high in the State of CT. The

total

Expenditures are \$12.2 Million dollars which represents a 12.9% increase from

last

Years budget, this has capital expenditures in it. The way the budget is crafted

takes

Into consideration the Governors budget cuts that were announced last week.

The

Chairman then goes through the Operating Budget (attachment #2) with

detailed

explanations on each item. There is a change is in the Resident State Trooper to an increase of 18% to reflect 85% of the cost of the Trooper to the Town. The Chairman also clarifies that the library benefits will be broken out into two different line items and that is why there is a decrease in this line item. He continues to go through page 2 of attachment #2. There is a discussion on the Times Farm bridge and in the long run it will cost the Town \$85K. The budget includes Tax abatement's for the fire fighters and the seniors. He concludes by going over other Expenditures in attachment #2.

Agenda Item 4: Public Comment:

Jay Linddy thanks the Chairman for his thorough/great presentation.

Robert Burbank speaks on the money that is needed for repairs to Town buildings.

Dan Warren replies that this will be taken up at the next meeting not at this one.

Dianne Grenier asks about the pedestrian bridge, where it is

Dan Warren explains that it is the bridge over Rte 316 and the money is in a fund restricted for that use.

Dianne Grenier asks if we own the Bridge or is it still owned by DEEP

Robert Burbank according to DEEP they stated that they still own the bridge and

he is not happy with that.

Adrian Mandeville notes that the bridge is now on the State inspection schedule.

Joan Foran compliments the Board of Finance on the presentation of the Budget.

Georgette Conrad notes that this is the only time that the public can make a suggestion

to increase or decrease any items. When it goes to a Town meeting there will not be an

option to increase an item.

Dan Warren The State Elected Officials that he has talked to want to see what direction the Town is going in with regards to Capital expenditures and this is a sign of good faith so that future grants will not be put in jeopardy .

Pat Moriarty asks about the money that the Town saved in snow removal where is it going?

Dan Warren \$50K is being taken and rolled into this next upcoming years budget.

Betsy Houle where is the money going?

Dan Warren it is reflected in unassigned balance offset. He points out that this Budget is very conservative. With the new Budget proposed by the Governor this budget there are still unknowns that are accounted for in this Budget.

Adrian Mandeville talks about the money that is set aside in funds and it won't be spent until if or when it is needed. He speaks briefly on the Times Farm Bridge Project.

Robert Burbank asks the Chairman if he spoke on the decrease in funds from the State.

Dan Warren explains that there is no change in the Town roads, STEAP, Ball fields and

LOCIP . There are some reductions but the Town should get the services they expect.

Agenda Item 5: Adjournment:

Georgette Conrad Motions to adjourn at 7:35PM

Adrian Mandeville Seconded

Motion Passed/Unanimous

Next Meeting Wednesday April 27, 2016, Regular Meeting

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Nichols

Board Clerk

April 25, 2016