



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY

TOWN HALL
1009 MAIN ST
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS 01876

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Robert Kocsmiersky, Chair
Jason Christian, Vice Chair
Richard Levasseur, Clerk
David Aznavoorian
Susan Bishop
Thomas L. Cooke
Richard Russo

Finance Committee

March 14, 2022 – Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Finance Committee was called to order by Mr. Rob Kocsmiersky - Chair at 7:00 PM on Monday, March 14, 2022. Also present at the meeting were Mr. Jason Christian - Vice Chair, Mr. Richard Levasseur - Clerk, Ms. Susan Bishop, Mr. Thomas Cooke and Mr. Richard Russo

Also participating in the meeting was town manager Mr. Richard Montouri.

Mr. David Aznavoorian was not present for this meeting.

2. FY 23 Budget Reviews

Shawsheen Valley Technical High School

Mr. Brad Jackson – Superintendent, Ms. Melanie Hagman – Director of Finance, Ms. Cheryl Bartolone – School Committee Member were present representing the school.

Mr. Jackson gave a presentation to the committee regarding its history. The budget of \$34,677,784 that was approved by the Shawsheen Tech School Committee represents an increase of 3.5% over the prior year. Student applications were up 8% from all member towns.

Melanie Hagman presented how the town assessment is derived. Tewksbury's assessment for FY23 is approximately \$7,369,366 an increase of \$500,000 from FY22.

There was general discussion on the budget including how funds received from Federal Aid were spent, transportation costs, how the State calculates each towns contribution, the condition of the school buildings, student enrollment, and Chapter 70 funding.

Tewksbury School Department

Mr. David Libby – Business Manager, Ms. Brenda Theriault-Regan – Interim Superintendent were present representing the school department.

Mr. Libby gave a presentation to the committee outlining their budget process centering around personnel, operations, technology and building improvement. The budget presented requested a 2.12% increase over FY22. 70% of the school budget is for salaries, 28% goes towards operating costs and 2% is for capital outlay projects. The school department maintains a list of capital projects for each school and potential start and end dates. Grant funding was reviewed.

The committee had general questions around debt reductions, the budget process as a whole, Chapter 70 money, fuel costs, and school buildings.

The committee had discussions centering around the Trahan and North Street school buildings and their concern regarding the costs for insurance of the buildings and the hazards they represent once they are no longer occupied. It was agreed that the committee would request a meeting with the chairman of the school reuse committee in the June timeframe.

3. Town Manager – Reports and Transfers

None

4. Finance committee member representation on another committees

Elementary School Building Committee - Committee member Mr. Thomas Cooke sent out a detailed report on the elementary school building and its progress to date.

No other committee reports

5. No Timesheets submitted.

6. No Minutes to approve

7. MOTION: A motion to adjourn was made by committee member Mr. Richard Russo at approximately 9:00PM, seconded by committee member Mr. Richard Levasseur.

Motion Carried 6-0

Documents Presented and/or Discussed:

- Shawsheen Valley technical high school budget presentation
 - Tewksbury school committee budget presentation
 - Elementary School Building Committee Report
- Approved 6/15/22