

Town of Hampton
Board of Finance
Public Hearing
June 6, 2017
7pm
Hampton Town Hall Community Room

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Members Present: Jeff Clermont, Ed Adelman, Nick Brown, Rick Matejka, Perry Matchinis, Mike Higgins, David Fowler
Staff and others present: First Selectman Al Cahill, Selectmen Mike Chapel and Bob Grindle, Treasurer Ellen Rodriguez, Hampton Elementary School Board of Education Chairman Rose Bisson, Superintendent Frank Olah, Business Coordinator Sally Lehoux, Recording Clerk Dayna McDermott-Arriola, and residents.

Presentation of the Proposed 2017-2018 Town Government and Elementary School Budgets and Public Input

First Selectman Cahill reviewed the budget, the limited increases in salary adjustments for Public Works Department staff, fixed costs in health insurance and workmen's compensation liability, and reductions in the capital non-recurring accounts, for an overall decrease to the Town Government budget.

Board of Education Chairman Rose Bisson complimented the Selectmen on their proposal, and member Ann Gruenberg asked about the possibility of municipal contributions to the Teachers' Retirement Board. First Selectman Cahill said that the State's budget remains unresolved, and Treasurer Rodriguez reported that she has received no new information from the State.

Chairman Clermont explained that the boards of Selectmen and Finance planned for the worst case scenario in terms of the State budget's impact on the Town, an amount Nick Brown identified as \$476,000, and that the mil rate will remain level by using monies from the General Fund to offset the loss of State revenue, leaving what's generally considered a healthy amount in the reserve fund. To Ed Adelman's concern that the State's cuts could be worse than anticipated, First Selectman Cahill said that the Town should be able to absorb the reductions at this time.

Chairman Bisson gave a brief overview of the Board of Education's budget, which is level to the amount of the last several years, the State mandated Minimum Budget Requirement. She explained the circumstances of last year's request for a waiver from the MBR, and that the State Department informed the Town recently that a waiver cannot be granted until after the close of the fiscal year, and if it is then denied, the Town would be liable for a penalty of double the amount of the deficit, or \$26,000. Therefore, the Board of Finance replenished the \$13,000 at its last meeting.

Adjournment: With no further commentary, the public hearing adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dayna McDermott Arriola
Recording Clerk

This is a draft version of the Minutes until approved by the Board of Finance.

