

**Town of Sandisfield**  
**Finance Committee Working Session**

**Date: January 30, 2019**

**Location: Town Hall Annex, 66 Sandisfield Road**

Members Present: Alex Bowman, Roger Brown (via Skype), Joe Gelinas, Kathy Jacobs, Bogart Muller, Fred Ventresco (ex-Officio Committee Member).

Members Absent: None

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.
2. Joe moved and Bogart seconded to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2018 meeting. Approved by roll call vote 4-0 with one abstention (Roger Brown was not present at the 11-21-18 meeting).
3. Discussed and voted on the financial articles on the Warrant for the February 25, 2019 Special Town Meeting as follows:
  - a. Article 1: A request to appropriate \$4,706.92 from free cash to the Legal Services account (account #10122.04) to pay invoices for FY18 that were received too late to be paid during FY18. After some discussion that this account was overspent for FY18 even before these invoices are paid, Joe moved, Alex seconded and the committee voted by roll call vote 5-0 to recommend this request.
  - b. Article 2: A request to appropriate \$8,000 from free cash to the Legal Services account (account #10122.04) for FY19 to pay for unanticipated legal expenses, such as those for the DPW personnel issues. After noting that this increases the FY19 budget for this account from \$12,500 approved at the May 2018 Annual Town Meeting to a new total of \$20,500, Joe moved, Bogart seconded and the committee voted by roll call vote 5-0 to recommend this request.
  - c. Article 3: A request to appropriate \$6,000 from free cash to the ALSS Intercept Service account (account #60220.19) to pay for unexpected higher expenses. Over \$7,000 of invoices have already been received for FY18. The committee noted that with this request the ALSS budget for FY19 is now \$15,000 and that only \$7,140 has been requested for FY20. Joe moved and Alex seconded and the committee voted by roll call vote 5-0 to recommend this request.
4. The Committee discussed the changes that the Select Board has made to the FY20 operational budgeting process without consulting the FINCOM. All committee members expressed their dismay with these changes and agreed that these changes may make it difficult for the committee to perform its function and that in the future it is important that any process changes be made in collaboration between the Select Board and the FINCOM.
5. The committee discussed the FY20 operational budget requests in the General Government Administration Category as follows:

BERK. REG. PLAN. COMMISSION.	OK
FEDERAL CENSUS WORKERS SALARIES	OK
LEGAL SERVICES**	OK
MODERATOR SALARY	OK
MODERATOR EXPENSE	Question has been posed to Simon regarding budgeting for dues and books
SELECT BOARD SALARY	Question posed to Fred regarding the legality of paying bonuses from on Salary account (Selectmen) to other departmental salary accounts.
SELECT BOARD EXPENSE	OK
TECHNOLOGY SALARY	OK
TECHNOLOGY EXPENSE	Fred to clarify software costs with the assessor.
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR SALARY*	OK, except Fred to review and possibly correct FY18 actual expenses
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR EXPENSE	OK
TOWN CLERK SALARY	Fred to obtain additional information about Assistant Town Clerk duties and reasons for 10.9% salary increase for the assistant.
TOWN CLERK EXPENSE	Fred to determine how many copies of the Town Report will now be printed and why the postage for the reports has increased (since the reports are not mailed)

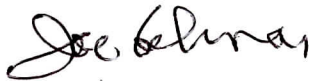
6. The following announcements were made:

- a. Joe noted that there is a Board of Selectmen Working session on Thursday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 at 4:15 to interview job candidates including Kyle Lawrence, a candidate for FINCOM secretary.
- b. Joe noted that there is a Joint Budget Hearing for the Farmington River Regional School District on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 7:00.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30

Respectfully submitted:

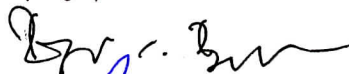
Joe Gelinas, Finance Committee Chair



Alex Bowman, Finance Committee Member



Roger Brown, Finance Committee Member



Kathy Jacobs, Finance Committee Member



Bogart Muller, Finance Committee Member

