



Billerica Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Billerica Town Hall

Room 210

7:00 PM

April 10, 2018

Finance Committee Members:

David Gagliardi, Chair (7:31pm)	Douglas Meagher, Vice Chair	Mary K. McBride
Doug Fogerty	Cheri Gargalianos (7:42pm)	Patrick Logue (7:29pm)
Rino Moriconi	John Mulloy	Philip Newfell
Michael Riley (7:32pm)	Blake Robertson	Anthony Ventresca
Town Accountant Paul Watson, Ex-Officio		Bee Magliozzi, Recording Clerk

ATTENDANCE:

11 Committee Members Present, 1 Excused (Mulloy), 0 Absent.

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE:

The Chair led the Committee in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

MEETING AUDIO RECORDING:

The Chair informed the Committee that member Ventresca would be audio recording the meeting.

TOWN/SCHOOL SHARED COSTS BUDGET:

Town Accountant, Paul Watson, presented the Town/School Shared Costs Budget to the Committee.

This budget includes Town property values, employee insurance, worker’s compensation, unemployment payroll and employee Medicare.

Following the review, some discussion ensued.

A motion to recommend the Town/Schools Shared Budget of \$32,015,714 was moved by Moriconi and seconded by McBride.

The vote was 5-2 (Robertson, Ventresca)–0.

TOWN/SCHOOL SHARED DEBT SERVICE BUDGET:

Town Accountant, Paul Watson, presented the Town/School Shared Debt Service Budget to the Committee. If necessary, there may be a transfer into the Debt Service amount.

The Town is no longer carrying any Library Debt.

The target Debt amount is \$9,066,000.

Following the review, some discussion ensued.

A motion to recommend the Town/School Shared Debt Service Budget of \$8,646,000 was moved by McBride and seconded by Fogerty.

The vote was 8-0-2(Gagliardi, Riley).

TOWN SYSTEMWIDE BUDGET:

Town Accountant, Paul Watson, presented the Town Systemwide Budget to the Committee.

Accounts in this Budget include Street Lights, Legal (includes Retainer and Specific Fees), Town Fuel and Town Retirements.

The Committee requested a report that includes utility/electric costs for each individual Town department. Town Account Watson will create this report and forward to the Finance Committee prior to the Fall Town Meeting.

Following the review, some discussion ensued.

A motion to recommend the Town Systemwide Budget of \$852,500 was moved by Meagher and seconded by Logue.

The vote was 10-0-1 (Gagalianos).

WARRANT ARTICLES:

Town Accountant, Paul Watson, presented the following Spring Town Meeting Warrant Articles.

ARTICLE 1:

Article 1 was presented to the Finance Committee for their consideration.

The compensation for the Board of Selectmen must be fixed annually by Town Meeting. The amounts for FY19 are; Chairman, \$2,000 and Members \$1,800

Discussion ensued following the Article's review.

A motion to recommend Article 1 as presented was moved by Meagher and seconded by Moriconi.

The vote was 10-1 (Meagher)-0.

ARTICLE 2:

Article 2 was presented to the Finance Committee for their consideration.

This Article allows Town Meeting to hear and act upon the reports of Town Departments, Committees and Officer.

Discussion ensued following the Article's review.

A motion to recommend Article 2 as presented was moved by Meagher and seconded by Logue.

The vote was 11-0-0.

ARTICLE 3:

Article 3 was presented to the Finance Committee for their consideration.

The Article proposes the discontinuation of the following Town Meeting committees: Compost Committee, Charter Review Committee, Family New Year Committee, Museum Committee, General By-Law Review Committee, Parker School Building Committee, Residents Employment Committee and the Zoning By-Law Committee.

It was suggested that each committee submit a final report prior to discontinuation of the committee.

A motion to recommend Article 3 as presented was moved by Meagher and seconded by Logue.

The vote was 11-0-0.

ARTICLE 12:

Article 12 was presented to the Finance Committee for their consideration.

The Town approving an appropriation of money to operate the Enterprise Fund for FY19.

Discussion ensued following the Article's review.

A motion to recommend Article 12 in the amount of \$6,188,894 was moved by Meagher and seconded by Moriconi.

The vote was 8 – 3 (Robertson, Ventresca, Logue) – 0.

ARTICLE 13:

Article 13 was presented to the Finance Committee for their consideration.

The Town to approve an appropriation of money to operate the Sewer Enterprise Fund for FY19.

Discussion ensued following the Article's review.

A motion to recommend Article 13 in the amount of \$8,327,388 was moved by Meagher and seconded by Logue.

The vote was 8–3(Robertson, Ventresca, Logue)–0.

ARTICLE 14:

Vice Chair Meagher contacted the State regarding his seats on two Town Committees and the legalities involved. The state's response was that it was legal and ethical because it was in the best interest of the Town.

Article 14 was presented to the Finance Committee for their consideration.

In 2016 the Town adopted the Community Preservation Act which stated that the Community Preservation Committee must recommend an annual CPA budget to Town Meeting. At Town Meeting, the Town will vote to appropriate or reserve from the Community Preservation Fund.

Discussion ensued following the Article's review.

A motion to recommend Article 14 as presented was moved by Meagher and seconded by Logue.

The vote was 8-3(Robertson, Ventresca, Logue)-0.

ARTICLE 15:

Article 15 was presented to the Finance Committee for their consideration.

It gives the Town Manager the authority to transfer funds between budget line items within a department, not-to-exceed \$5,000. If the amount exceeds the cap, the transfer would require Finance Committee's approval.

Discussion ensued following the Article's review.

A motion to recommend Article 15 was moved by Meagher and seconded by Logue.

The vote was 10-1(Ventresca)-0.

ARTICLE 16:

Article 16 was presented to the Finance Committee for their consideration.

All Revolving Funds must be approved annually at Town Meeting.

There are two new By-laws and two new Revolving accounts. Town Accountant Watson distributed the updated Article 16.

Discussion ensued following the Article's review.

A motion to recommend Article 16 as presented was moved by Meagher and seconded by Logue.

The vote was 10-0-1(Gagliardi).

ARTICLE 24:

Article 24 was presented to the Finance Committee for their consideration.

Town Accountant Watson distributed the updated Article 24.

Discussion ensued following the Article's review. The Committee requested updated information regarding the 'Sunset' clause from Town Counsel.

Vote on the Article was placed On Hold until review of Town Counsel's legal opinion.

ARTICLE 25:

Article 25 was presented to the Finance Committee for their consideration.

Paramedic Supervisor, Joseph Devlin, reviewed his department and its service to the Town. The Department currently has 4 vehicles. Due to the delay regarding the purchase and delivery of a new ambulance, there have been numerous mechanical problems with older vehicles creating response issues.

Discussion ensued following the Article's review.

A motion to recommend Article 25 in the amount of \$250,000 was moved by Ventresca and seconded by Logue.

The vote was 6-0-1 (Newfell).

ACCEPTANCE OF MARCH 6, 2018 MINUTES:

The March 6, 2018 Minutes were reviewed and voted upon.

A motion to accept the Minutes of March 6, 2018 as amended was moved by McBride and seconded by Meagher.

The vote was 11-0-0.

ACCEPTANCE OF MARCH 8, 2018 MINUTES:

The March 8, 2018 Minutes were reviewed and voted upon.

A motion to accept the Minutes of March 8, 2018 as amended was moved by Moriconi and seconded by McBride.

The vote was 9-0-2.

ACCEPTANCE OF MARCH 27, 2018 MINUTES:

The March 27, 2018 Minutes were reviewed and voted upon.

A motion to accept the Minutes of March 27, 2018 was moved by McBride and seconded by Riley.

The vote was 10-0-1(Logue).

ACCEPTANCE OF APRIL 5, 2018 MINUTES:

The April 5, 2018 Minutes were reviewed and voted upon.

A motion to accept the Minutes of April 5, 2018 was moved by Moriconi and seconded by McBride.

The vote was 9-0-2(Robertson, Gargalianos).

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE:

Billerica resident, Dina Favreau, submitted a public records request for all March Finance Committee Minutes and the Committee's recommendations to Town Meeting. The Chair will fulfill her request for the minutes but, after consulting Counsel, stated that the recommendations were not covered under public records request law as one cannot request a record before it exists.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting to be held April 17, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Riley and seconded by McBride.

The vote was 11-0-0.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 9:07pm.

**Respectfully submitted,
Bee Magliozzi, Recording Clerk**