

## Minutes

Lincoln Finance Committee

Tuesday January 16, 2018

7:00 pm, Hartwell Multipurpose Room

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Present: Jim Hutchinson, Andy Payne, Peyton Marshall, Tom Sander, Eric Harris, Gina Halsted

Absent: Jeff Birchby

Also present: Tim Higgins, Town Administrator, Colleen Wilkins, Finance Director, Jennifer Glass, Selectperson, Becky McFall, Lincoln Schools Superintendent, Buck Creel, Lincoln Schools Business Manager, and Timothy Christenfeld, Lincoln School Committee.

Both the Town and Lincoln Schools made presentations tonight in lieu of presenting at the second budget workshop scheduled for January 24, 2018.

Tim Higgins presented the updated town base budget and preferred budget requests. The preferred budget was proposed at \$89,000, down \$10,000 from the budget presented at first budget workshop. Biggest item was the increase in amounts for EPA Storm Water Permit Mandates that increased the Consulting and Engineering Budget by \$50,000 as well as an additional \$12,000 to restore the Consulting and Engineering Budget to prior levels. Also discussed were additional hours for town nurse for \$14,000 and domestic violence support for \$8,000.

The next topic of discussion was the Lincoln School Budget. Becky McFall reported that there was no change in budget from the first budget workshop that was within the 2.5 % budget guideline. It was also reported that it was unlikely that school budgets from FY2021 onwards would be able to meet a 2.5% guideline. This is a result of the leanness of the current teacher contracts and the difficulty of was maintaining that stance relative to other towns when this contract is renegotiated in two years.

We discussed the contract status of Hanscom schools. The town is applying for another 5-year contract, and the final decision on that is unlikely to be made until April, 2018.

The next item discussed was the state of the campus building project. 5 options will be presented to the town from bringing the building to code and meeting most of the educational and design options. We will have representatives at the forums on Jan 23 (SBC) to briefly present the financial implications of these options at the end of the presentation. We will also have representatives at the forum for the PPDC forum on January 30.

The Committee next discussed the slide presentation to be posted on the website of the financial and tax impact of various bonding amounts for the school building project and the community center project and how that capitol load compares to other comparable towns. There was a discussion as to whether the towns we were using were really the most comparable because of Lincoln's small size, but it was decided that this issue couldn't be dealt with at this point with the limited amount of time left before the scheduled forums. Also discussed which of these slides to present at the forums.

We had liaison reports from CPC, and community center.

The minutes of the December 6, 2017 and December 11, 2017 fincom meetings were unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:00 PM.