



**FINANCE COMMITTEE
TOWN OF BERNARDSTON
BERNARDSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
27 FEBRUARY 2023**

PRESENT: Jody Coleman, Jane Dutcher, Stan Garland, Brian Keir, Ken Bordewieck.

The Meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM.

The meeting consisted of the following reviews or discussions in the following order:

1. The Highway Department budget was reviewed with Brian Miner. Personnel and work hour issues were discussed. Highway Department job descriptions and possible future responsibilities were then discussed. The subject of possible purchase of a used wood chipper and a rotating brush for the skid steer was discussed as well. The wood chipper would be a separate purchase outside of the budget but Mr. Miner stated that he may be able to purchase the brush within the budget if there were enough funds available at the end of the year. Mr. Garland informed Mr. Miner that raises would not match Social Security raises of 8.7%, but would most likely be 4.4% per previous vote by the joint committees.
2. The Transfer Station budget was then discussed with Mr. Miner. He stated that hauling costs will increase for mattresses, recycling and solid waste. All other items were reviewed and no questions were asked. Mr. Miner reiterated the need for an additional worker at the Highway Department.
3. Minutes from the previous meeting of the committees held on February 13th were reviewed and approved as corrected with a motion by Mrs. Dutcher and a second by Mr. Coleman.
4. The budget expense report will be reviewed in detail by the Finance Committee.
5. Funding sources were reviewed and discussed. The Governors budget amount of 415,998.00 for the Cherry Sheet was noted.
6. The budget worksheet was reviewed and discussed. Questions and concerns were raised about the Police Department budget and the Bernardston-Leyden policing agreement. These questions will be addressed by the Selectboard when they meet with Chief Palmeri next week.
7. Upcoming meetings with town departments were reviewed.

MINUTES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING

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Library 3/27

The next meeting of the Committees will be at the Town Hall Monday March 6th at 6:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jody Coleman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jody Coleman", written over a faint rectangular stamp area.