



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

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 06 MARCH 2023

PRESENT: Jane Dutcher, Jody Coleman, Brian Hervieux, Stephen Nestanpower
Brian Keir, Ken Bordewieck, Stanley Garland

GUESTS: Richard Martin, Russ Kaubris, Elizabeth Bouchard

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

The meeting included the following reviews and/or discussions held in the order of their occurrence:

1. *Franklin County Technical School Superintendent Martin*, using a visual presentation, reviewed the *FY 24 Proposed Budget* to the Committees. At the end of the presentation questions were answered and explanations given.
2. The meeting was adjourned so that the members could attend and participate in *Bernardston's Annual Caucus*.
3. The meeting reconvened at 7:00 PM.
4. The minutes of the meeting held on 27 February 2023 were distributed and reviewed.
5. The following specific anticipated FY 24 expenses were reviewed and discussed;
 - a. *The Selectboard individual budgets*;
 - b. *Veteran's contributions*;
 - c. *The Truck Loan schedule*;
 - d. *Heating Oil costs memo from Mr. Bordeaux*;
 - e. *Hauling Cost Chart*;
 - f. *Veterans Assessments*;
 - g. *Draft FRCOG Assessments*;
 - h. *The Transfer Station revised FY 24 Budget* that included a 4.4% COLA raise;
 - i. *The Capital Expenses for a requested Police and Emergency Management Staff Rest Room* were explored;
 - j. *The Cherry Sheet Estimate sheet* was reviewed;
 - k. *PVRS's latest proposed FY 24 Budget*.
6. The latest *Funding Sources Report* was reviewed.
7. Mrs. Dutcher distributed *Budget Worksheet #3* for review that raised the following points:

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

06 MARCH 2023

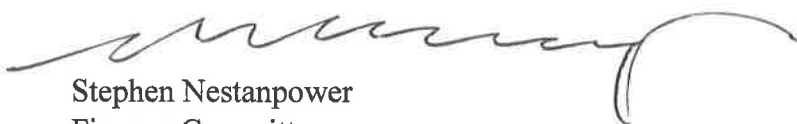
page 2

- a. The latest *Cherry Sheet* estimates were added;
 - b. The *Board of Health* FY 24 Budget has not been received and is not accounted for;
 - c. *Veteran's Benefits* have not been included due to lack of information;
 - d. The *Zoning Board* has not submitted its FY 24 Budget as of this date and is not included;
 - e. For FY 24, Mrs. Dutcher carried over the figure for *Emergency Communications* [50% from the *Emergency Management Department* and 50% from the *Police Department*] from the FY 23 budget;
 - f. Mrs. Dutcher is waiting to receive the figures for *Medicare* and *Unemployment* anticipated FY 24 expenses from Sue;
 - g. *PVRS's FY 24 Operating and Capital Budgets* are included;
 - h. FY 24 anticipated *Landfill* expenses are not included;
 - i. Question concerning *Tree Removal Expenses* for FY 24 remain;
 - j. There is no FY 24 Budget for the *Charity Lot Farm*;
 - k. The *Selectboard* did not submit a FY 24 Budget request for the *Mosquito District* because questions and concerns regarding their activities on *Bernardston's* behalf exist;
 - l. The future for the existing *New Fire Station Funds* remains;
 - m. If possible, *ARPA Funds* might have to be used to cover anticipated FY 24 *Building Renovation and Construction* costs.
8. The revised *Combined FY 24 Bernardston and Leyden Police Budget* was dissected and discussed. Serious concerns and questions were raised.

The next meeting of the joint *Committees* has been scheduled for 13 March 2023 beginning at 6:30 PM at *Town Hall*.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully,



Stephen Nestanpower
Finance Committee