



FINANCE COMMITTEE
TOWN OF BERNARDSTON
BERNARDSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF
27 MARCH 2023

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

The Meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.

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

1. The Summary Budget Comparison was reviewed with the following discrepancies.
 - The emergency Communications budget account 5485 was found to be -\$54.00 or expended at 110.63%.
 - The BNCTV account 5813 was found to be -\$160.00 or expended at 106.53%. Transfers will be made to cover these deficits.
2. The Library budget was then reviewed with Brandon Grover and several members of the library commission.
 - They would like to eliminate the Assistant Librarian position and add 7 hours per week to the Librarians schedule resulting in a gain of \$352.56 to the Library budget.
 - It was confirmed that oil delivery is through the collaborative and is budgeted at \$5.00 per gallon.
 - Mr. Garland stated that he would like pest control to be shown as a separate line item at \$400 per year.
 - The basement is being insulated and the knob and tube wiring will be addressed in the future. The costs will be covered by grant funding (15k) and ARPA money voted by the Selectboard (9k).
 - They will add an income line item for the book sale.

A new budget will be presented with adjusted numbers.

3. The Recreation Commission budget was reviewed with Jen Stennis.
 - The need of a part time director and associated pay was discussed. Will need a job description.
 - Other expenses line item will be corrected \$3150.00.

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- Anticipated income for sports registrations is \$6000.
 - Winter registrations were \$3000 with 20 kids at \$150 each.
 - Software for online registration was discussed. Lou Bordeaux will provide details.
 - Discussed \$15.00 per hour pay for senior counselors, which would cost approximately \$8240. It was suggested that fees be increased \$25.00 per week per child to cover the increased cost of raises. The second thought would be to use additional money from the Barber Fund. It was also suggested that a pay scale of four years be developed for counselors.
4. Reviewed budget worksheet #5. Began to move items from requested to recommended by Finance Committee.
 5. Discussed Assistant Treasurer request and stipend. Will revisit.
 6. Discussed total request and total allowable operating budget \$145,065.53 is remaining before adjustments to payroll.
 7. Mr. Bordewieck informed us that Sunderland is leaving the COG in June. Several towns are weighing accounting options. He also informed the committee's of discussions with Sunderland and several accounting firms and their associated costs.

The next meeting of the Committees will be at the Town Hall Monday April 3rd at 6:30pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jody Coleman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jody Coleman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.