

**Town of West Boylston
Finance Committee
Meeting of January 16, 2017**

A meeting of Fincom was convened at 7:03 pm in the town hall meeting room. Attending were Chris Berglund, Paul Bohannon, Ray Bricault, Pat Bryant, Jaime Desanti, Pavel Loven, James Marinelli, and Pete Murphy. Absent were James Bedard and Bill Fay.

The minutes of meeting from October 17, 2016, pre-town meeting are outstanding and will be reviewed at the next Fincom meeting.

The department budgets have been submitted to the Town Administrator for review. They include only contractual salary increases. State revenues are not expected to increase and remain in question. A 2% COLA may be considered for the budgets once revenue uncertainties are resolved.

The Town Administrator provided feedback that some departments feel the Fincom is too aggressive in asking for information on capital items. After discussion, the committee decided to go through the Town Administrator when seeking more information and explanation for capital requests.

There are significant 2018 capital requests from the Fire Department, including a new truck, ambulance, and generator for \$870,000. A debt exclusion will be required. The DPW has requested a backhoe for \$130,000. The Schools have not yet submitted their capital budget. The Board of Selectmen have not yet given an opinion on the requests.

Fincom formed teams, as in the past, to investigate the department capital and budget needs. These are:

- Schools – Ray Bricault and Paul Bohannon
- Public Safety – Pavel Loven and Jim Marinelli
- DPW – Jaime Desanti, Bill Fay, and Pete Murphy
- Administration/Library – Chris Berglund and Pat Bryant

It was unclear to the committee if the Town Administrator intends for Fincom to have separate capital and budget meetings with the departments. The initial schedule would seem to indicate that intent. Chris Berglund will clarify the intent and work with the Town Administrator on a schedule.

Ray Bricault gave a FISP report on the Senior Center. A special town meeting is expected to approve a \$500,000 architectural design contract for a \$5 million senior center on the Mixer property.

The next meeting will be set through email based on the schedule from the Town Administrator.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Pete Murphy
Secretary
Fincom & CIB