

**Town of Sterling
Joint Finance Committee and Capital Committee Meeting
With Board of Selectmen
April 22, 2020
Butterick Building, Room 205**

Meeting Minutes

Chairman Sova called the Finance Committee meeting to order at 6:07 PM.
Chairman Heller called the Capital Committee meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

In Attendance:

Finance Committee - Joe Sova and Everett Heller. By remote connection: Mary Cliett and Todd Chapman
Capital Committee - Joe Sova and Everett Heller. By remote connection: Todd Chapman, Mary Cliett, Bob Brown, and Elaine Heller

Selectmen - Maureen Cranson and John Kilcoyne (arrived at 6:09 PM). Arden Sonnenberg by remote connection.

Also in attendance, Town Administrator Ross Perry

Review of FY21 Budget:

Fire Chief Hurlbut provided a request for reconsideration of restoring funding in the budget for 1 of the 2 requested daytime firefighter/paramedic positions, to be funded by Ambulance Receipts.

He also provided a breakdown of staffing comparisons with other towns, which indicates Sterling has the least number of firefighters as compared to towns that have the same call volume. FinCom and CapCom members discussed the information with the Board of Selectmen and determined it would be best to have the Chief attend a meeting to discuss these needs.

At the time of this meeting, the Omnibus Budget stands at \$24,420,482.00, which reflects a 2.58% increase in the budget over the current fiscal year. Everett Heller made a motion to recommend support of the Omnibus Budget and Mary Cliett seconded the motion. Discussion ensued regarding the effect this budget amount would have on the tax rate. A roll call vote was then taken: Heller - aye; Cliett - aye; Chapman - aye; Sova - aye. Motion carried.

Capital Fund Review:

CapCom Chairman Heller read a listing of the revised FY21 capital items, which total \$790,151.00. Members had reviewed these items at their previous meeting. A motion to recommend support of the capital items was made by Joe Sova and seconded by Mary Cliett. Roll call vote: Sova - aye; Cliett - aye; Everett Heller - aye; Chapman - aye; Elaine Heller - aye; Brown - aye. Motion carried.

FY21 Budget Recap:

Town Administrator Perry provided information showing appropriations and revenue sources. He also provided comparisons of the effect these numbers would have on the tax rate, based on the source of funding. Chairman Sova stressed the main objective is to keep the tax rate down.

Set Next Meeting Date:

Chairman Sova scheduled the next meeting, Finance Committee only, for May 4, 2020, at 6:00 PM.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn the Finance Committee meeting was made by Everett Heller and seconded by Mary Cliett. All in favor, motion carried.

Joe Sova made a motion to adjourn the Capital Committee meeting and Mary Cliett seconded. Unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.