

**Town of Sterling  
Finance Committee Meeting Minutes  
March 2, 2019  
Butterick Building, Room 205**

Committee Chairman Joe Sova called the meeting to order at 8:02 AM.

**In Attendance:**

Joe Sova, Mary Cliett, Everett Heller, Todd Chapman, and Steve Staudaher  
Also in Attendance: Town Administrator Ross Perry, Selectman Chair Richard Lane, Vice-Chair John Kilcoyne, Clerk Maureen Cranson, and Dick Maki

**Meet With Department Heads, Boards and Committees for Budget Discussion:**

The Finance Committee members met with these Department Heads or Representatives of Boards or Committees:

**Planning Board** - David Shapiro, Clerk of the Board

**Fire Department/Ambulance** - Chief David Hurlbut

**Assessors** - Donlin Murray

**DPW** - Superintendent Bill Tuttle

**Town Administrator, IT** - Ross Perry

**Police Department** - Chief Gary Chamberland

**Board of Health** - Health Agent David Favreau and BOH Member Allen Hoffman

**Human Resources, Personnel Board, BOS, Legal, and Insurance** - Ross Perry

**1835 Town Hall Committee** - no representatives attended the meeting, but did submit their proposal, \$120,000.00 for a septic system. Members of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee members discussed the need for a sprinkler system, expressing the opinion that one should be installed before more work is done on the inside of the building. A placeholder will be added to the warrant and monies to the capital plan in the amount of \$125,000.00.

**Economic Development Committee** - Maureen Cranson spoke, indicating the committee has no increase in their budget request.

**Worcester County Retirement** - Ross Perry

TA Perry noted Worcester County Retirement has submitted a 17% increase. It is Mr. Perry's intent to place a telephone call to his contact for an explanation. He may discuss this increase with Senators Tran and/or Naughton, depending on the answer he receives from the Retirement Association.

The meeting broke for lunch at 11:22 AM and reconvened at 12:30 PM.

**Senior Center/COA** - Director Veronica Buckley

**Library** - Director Pat Campbell

**Recreation, Tennis and Pickleball** - Recreation Director Kristen Dietel and subcommittee member Chuck Plaisted (to speak on the tennis/pickleball court).

Mr. Plaisted submitted a breakdown of costs for reconstruction of the tennis/pickleball court, amounting to \$132,623.00.

**Montachusett Technical High School - Bill Brassard**

**Sterling Historical Commission** - Cathy Harragian. Ms. Harragian commented that the Historical Commission has elected to withdraw their request for \$20,000 for the West Sterling Schoolhouse, and instead are asking for \$1,500.00 from the town and hope to obtain \$1,500.00 from a matching grant. Their intent for any monies received is to prepare a facility needs assessment for the building.

**Adjourn:**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Everett Heller and seconded by Steve Staudaher. All members were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 2:26 PM.