



Finance Committee

Meeting Date: December 13, 2023

Present: Chairman Conley, Vice Chair Riley, Keophannga (remote), Hamilton, Nagel, Sansoucy.

1. **Call to Order:** 7:00 PM
2. **Public Comment** – None
3. **State Budget Update:**
 - a. Mr. Hellen gave a brief update. No major changes are expected from the preliminary number we are using.
 - b. There was a short discussion of why some towns have very large school aid vs Franklin.
4. Future Agenda Items & 2024 Meeting Schedule.
 - a. We don't want duplicate and create unnecessary work for presentations it would be best to "dovetail" with the presentations to the Town Council.
 - b. Dates for budget hearings were adjusted.
 - i. May 6th – General Government
 - ii. May 8th – Police, Fire and DPW
 - iii. May 15th – Schools & Final Recommendation and Vote
5. Bill Dowd Deep Dive Series.
 - a. Facilities Department – a robust discussion was held about the myriad of buildings and other types of facilities related items that are managed by the facilities department either directly or in conjunction with the department occupying the facility.
 - b. A discussion was held about the management of energy costs which the TA described as "extraordinarily complicated". It is obvious that the town has saved many, many dollars over the years because of our relationships developed and memorialized back in 2011.
 - c. The use of solar has allowed credits on the Grid bills that can be used to upgrade things such as refrigerators, freezers and dishwashing equipment.
 - d. Grants Discussion – the town has averaged about \$4,000,000 yearly for the last 10 years. The more recent years are the larger years.
 - e. Grants are primarily managed at the department level because the expertise resides there. There is not a lot to be gained to have a "Grants Administrator."
 - f. The
6. Approval of minutes'
 - a. September 13, 2023
 - b. November 8, 2023
7. Adjourned at 8:20PM