

Minutes

Select Board Present: Stephanie O’Keeffe, Alisa Brewer, Aaron Hayden James Wald and Diana Stein.

Absent: None

Staff: Town Manager John Musante and Finance Director Sandy Pooler

Finance Committee: Andy Steinberg, Kay Moran, Janice Ratner, Bob Saul, Anurag Sharma, Doug Slaughter, Marylou Theilman

Other:

Meeting called to order by Ms. O’Keeffe at 4:08 p.m. Finance Committee Chair Andy Steinberg also called to order the Finance Committee as this was posted as a joint meeting.

Presentation of Town Manager’s Fiscal Year 2013 Budget

Town Manager John Musante presented a detailed overview of his recommended FY 13 Town budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012. Mr. Musante reviewed budget assumptions, distributed a summary of his recommendations outlined in the transmittal letter included in the FY 13 Proposed Budget document and described the tentative budget review calendar leading up to Annual Town Meeting scheduled to begin on April 30.

Mr. Pooler and Mr. Musante answered questions from Select Board and Finance Committee members. The budget assumes level-services with a 2.9% expense increase over FY12, which aligns with initial revenue estimates and requires no use of reserve funds. A short list of recommended budget additions and restorations of past cuts was provided for consideration, both in case additional revenue is available and with an eye toward future needs. It was emphasized that further discussion of the budget proposal would occur at every Select Board and Finance Committee meeting between this date and the beginning of Town Meeting, and that the public and Town Meeting members were encouraged to watch or attend those meetings, ask questions and provide feedback. It was noted the complete budget proposal is available on the Town web site at www.amherstma.gov/budget.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John P. Musante, Town Manager

List of Documents Presented at the Meeting – Also Available in the Online Packet for the Meeting Date
Town Manager’s Proposed FY 13 Budget Document
Amherst, Leverett, Pelham, Shutesbury Community Innovation Challenge Grant Application