

Town of Ashby, Massachusetts

Finance Committee Meeting

January 22, 2019

Begin: 7:45 (Kevin sets up the projector)

Present: Kevin Stetson (Chair), Kathy Panagiotes, Sharon Stetson, Liryc Donald

Guests: Cory Harju, Mike Bussell, Gary Asher, Nancy Catalini, Tiffany Call, Linda Stacy, Lois Raymond, Mike O'Hara

No meeting Feb. 12, snow

Discussion:

- **Mike Bussell** is asking for additional funding R/T coming into compliance with new OSHA rulings related to municipalities. Fire prevention/inspections means an increase of \$2,000
- Town is mandated to pay for physicals, approximately \$400 per employee.
- Turn-out gear (uniform) needs replacement every 10 years. Purchase of 3 sets each year is suggested. Gear is \$3,000 per firefighter. Need is for an increase in funding of \$10,000
- The fleet of firetrucks is aging; newest is 5 yrs. Recommended are to review at 15 yrs and replace at 25 yrs. Our primary truck, the first to appear at a fire is 27 years old.
- Chief is working to create a Capital Plan for FD, he would like all town departments to work to create priority lists, needs not wants
- Kevin suggests a picture books with description ad plan for each piece of equipment and keep track of maintenance
- **Tiffany Call** requests 3% salary increase; 16 hour position, from 13.77 to 14.40. She points out that in 2023 minimum wage will be 15.00
- **Cory Harju** Director of COA is paid for 8 hours. The town pays 3 hours and a grant pays the rest. She would like the town to increase their portion to 8 more = 11. There are 360+ elders at present in the Ashby community.
- **Lois Raymond** the increase requested is for a computer program to connect CAMA to iasWorld, to keep track of tax records and changes.

Adjourned: 9:35

Next Meetings: February 26, March 12 and 26

Kathy Panagiotes

Secretary