

Minutes Alford Board of Selectmen

March 18, 2019

Joint meeting with the Finance Committee

Present: Charles Ketchen, Chairman; Peter Puciloski, Peggy Rae Henden- Wilson, Joan Rogers, Mort Josel, Carl Stewart and Peter Schoeffer by phone

Meeting called to order 12:10 PM by Charles Ketchen, Chairman

Rogers reported the Finance Committee met on February 13, 2018. They have discussed the Enterprise Fund current budget and are hopeful the Enterprise fund will end the year on the positive side. The finance committee has discussed the Enterprise Fund budget for FY2020. The budget will be based on 260 subscribers. The majority of the expense items will remain the same as FY2019 with the largest increase on the debt service line.

The school budget is expected to increase by \$45,000 for FY2020. That number seem high to both the Select Board and the Finance Committee since Alford enrollment is decreasing.

Ketchen proposed a .73 cent increase in the tax rate. This will cover the School District increase and allow the Town to increase the debt service on the Broadband loan, such that the loan will be paid in approximately 7 years.

Stewart made the motion for the Finance Committee to agree with the Select Board's decision to include \$200,000.00 per year for debt service which would increase the tax rate to approximately \$5.80. Second by Josel. Motion approved unanimously.

The SBRSD has proposed an amendment to the Regional School Agreement which would change the assessment to a rolling 5 year average so towns would have more moderate fluctuations in the annual assessment. .

Stewart made the motion to accept the recommendation of the SBRSD to the proposed warrant article. Second by Josel. Motion approved unanimously.

Rogers asked the finance Committee to approve an increase in the Treasurer's salary for FY2020. She felt this is necessary since the work load has increased with the establishment of the Enterprise Fund. Stewart made the motion to increase the salary to \$10,250.00, Second by Josel. Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Roxanne Germain