

February 7, 2024

Meeting of Finance Committee held on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Hearing Room, Town Hall.

Members present: Tony Sanches, Aneta Lombardi, Michael Kelley, Susanne Boyea and Dolly Cincone

Members excused: Matais Goncalves

Mr. Shawn Teece and Mr. Marc Strange were also present.

First Order of Business: The Pledge of Allegiance

At this time, the committee welcomed a new member – Mr. Michael Kelley. Each member of the committee introduced themselves and said a few words about their background.

Afterwards, Mr. Strange reviewed the most recent version of Level 2 2025 Budget, highlighting changes that were made between Level 1 and Level 2, which included:

- Non-union COLAs were decreased from 3% to 2%.
- Health insurance premiums were supposed to go up 10%, but the final increase was 6.8%.
- All new position requests that were included in Level 1 were backed out.
- Property liability insurance went up in the final update.
- Police – overtime and software were level funded.
- Fire department – website & software requests removed.
- Animal Control – ACO position was upgraded to NU10.
- DPW – Snow & Ice – Mr. Strange will get back to the committee if budget can be decreased.
- Veterans Service – Veteran's center lease was reduced.
- Hubbard Library – part-time assistant position was approved; changes were made to General Expenses.
- Recreation – camp counselor was level funded; changes were made to General Expenses.
- Local receipts – might be increased between \$300-500k.
- Cherry Sheet – final number won't be available till July 1st.

We are currently approximately \$989k under levy capacity.

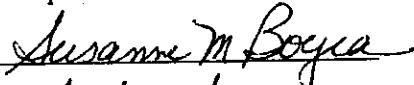
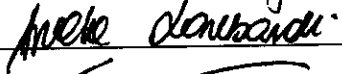
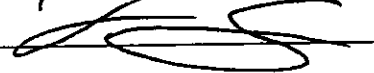
Correspondence included a memo regarding acknowledgement of the summary of the conflict-of-interest law for municipal employees. Committee members have to sign the summary of the conflict of interest as soon as possible.

Afterwards, the committee reviewed the remaining 2025 budget calendar dates noting that we are on track. The next Finance committee meeting will be moved from March 20th to March 13th. Committee members are asked to attend the joint Board of Selectmen, School Committee and Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday February 27th.

Moved by Ms. Boyea, seconded by Ms. Lombardi to approve and sign the Finance Committee Minutes of January 24, 2024, as indicated.
Vote: 3-0-2 in favor

Moved by Ms. Boyea, seconded by Ms. Lombardi to approve and sign the Finance Committee Minutes of November 29, 2023, as indicated.
Vote: 4-0-1 in favor

Moved by Ms. Boyea, seconded by Ms. Lombardi to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting at 7:15 p.m. Vote: 5-0 in favor.


Ludlow Finance Committee

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