

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Hopedale Town Hall-Draper Room
April 29, 2019
Regular Minutes

Present: Selectman Brian Keyes, Selectman Louis Arcudi, Selectman Thomas Wesley
Also, present, Town Administrator Steven Sette, Executive Assistant Susan Brouwer
and Videographer Marcia Matthews.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Selectman Arcudi.

Pledge of Allegiance

A. Consent Items

None

B. Appointments and Resignations

None

C. New Business

1. Budget discussion with Fin Com regarding FY 20 Budget

The Board of Selectmen met with members of the Finance Committee to discuss the FY20 Budget. Finance Committee Chair Sam Hockenbury provided an overview the FY20 budget noting that he met with various departments to discuss their needs. The fire and police departments have overtime costs due to staff constraints. All other town departments are level funded and have been for the past three years. The school department is seeking an increase of 3% to meet their contractual needs.

Mr. Hockenbury provided members with a spreadsheet with breakdown of the FY19 and FY20 budgets. He reviewed the receipts, offset receipts and other revenue. The prior year levy was 14,339,924 an expected levy increase of \$358,498, new growth at \$159,800 for a total of \$14,858,222. The amount needed to be raised is \$15,294,858 leaving a deficit of \$436,636.

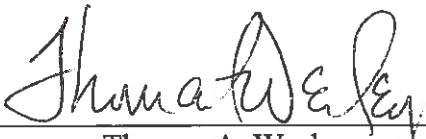
Board members inquired as to what is driving the numbers. Blackstone Valley Tech has an increase of \$97,890, the stormwater permit \$100,000, charter schools \$99,300, and school choice \$21,000. Selectman Arcudi would like a copy of the 10-year budget sheet shared with the Finance Committee for further review and information on projecting the needs of the FY20 budget.

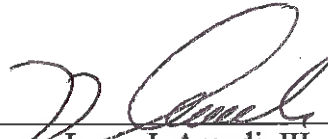
Following discussion, the boards agreed, that an operational override for the Town and School Departments is needed for at least \$437,000 just to maintain services. The Board of Selectmen requested that the Finance Committee put together information booklet for residents, so they understand why an override is needed. Information will be placed on the Town's website, cable and press releases will be placed in the newspapers.

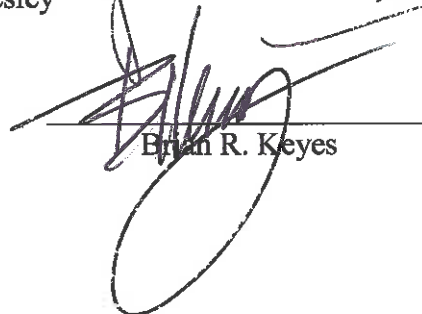
The Finance Committee is scheduled to meet again in the near future and will provide information to the Town Administrator, so he can get the information out.

I. Adjournment

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 8:05 p.m.


Thomas A. Wesley


Louis J. Arcudi, III


Brian R. Keyes

Hopedale Board of Selectmen

*MSDV – Moved, Seconded, Discussed and Voted

**RCV- Roll Call Vote