

## Winthrop Finance Commission Minutes

---

Date: Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 6:00pm  
Attendees: TOW: Tony Marino (TM), Sarah Johnson (SJ), Robbie Powers (RP)  
FC: Brent Farrell (BF), Shannon Poulos (SP), Karin Chavis (KC), William Gault (WG), Matt Gorzkowicz (MG), Joe Hanlon (JH), John DaRos (JD), Hannah Belcher (HB)  
Absent: Max Tassinari, John Macero

---

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by MG.

Rollcall vote completed by KC. All present except individuals noted above.

Focus of meeting will be on overview of the proposed town budget from TM.

### *TM Presentation & Discussion re: FY 2026 Budget*

- Includes recent town vote for fire department station construction and \$3.5MM override
- New growth of \$350K budgeted versus \$407K actual last year
- GIC insurance went up 15.3% from last year, higher than last years increase of ~10%
  - Insurance subcommittee being established
  - Line item expense increase was roughly \$500K
- Police chief will assume responsibility of Harbormaster, with assistant harbormaster being hired to implement changes to increase security and revenue
- Somerset apartment building conversion to condominiums underway
- Budget will be presented to the town council on April 15
- Collective bargaining – 1 of 5 union groups have finalized, others underway
- TM is working with parks and recreation for a new location
- Garbage removal contribution by town was reduced from \$600K to \$400K
- For fire department bond offering expecting ~4.75% with 25 year amortization in current environment

### *Various discussion points amongst the members included:*

- Expectation is for town council to approve budget on June 17<sup>th</sup>
- Presentation from finance commission to occur on June 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Meeting on April 16<sup>th</sup> expected to cover budget discussion with TM and other topics
- School department scheduled to present on May 1
- Request for salaries and benefits by position for 2025 FY and 2026 budget for both town and school employees
- Request to the school department for a listing of headcount for the prior year and projected upcoming year, with salary, stipends, OT, etc. by head again both actual and projected

KC motioned to adjourn; JH seconded. Approved by all present members.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.