

Winthrop Finance Commission Minutes

Date: Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 6:00pm
Attendees: TOW: Tony Marino (TM), Sarah Johnson (SJ), Robbie Powers (RP), Cheryl McCormick (CM)
FC: Karin Chavis (KC), William Gault (WG), Matt Gorzkowicz (MG), Hannah Belcher (HB)
Absent: Max Tassinari, John DaRos, John Macero, Shannon Poulos, Joe Hanlon
Other: Jim Letterie (JL), Suzanne Swope (SS)

Meeting called to order at 6:07 pm by MG.

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

No quorum, will not take any votes on accepting minutes from previous meetings

Presentation & Discussion: Executive Dept. Budget by Tony Marino

- Review of goals/accomplishments including 911 regionalization, engagement with business community, move of Harbormaster to WPD, continued digitization of files, hire of ATM, 10 yr agreement with Comcast including capital dollars, trash contract
- Discussion of impact of recent Wage & Class study; TM reports no changes yet, may see in the future for new union contracts
- No major changes to Executive Office budget
- TM says long-term goal is to expand IT department and combine software/related expenses
- Shared expenses – HB, JL mention fuel line is high with 25% increase despite fuel cost being lower
- Shortages in insurance lines for retirees (\$120K), and school (\$40-\$60K)

Presentation & Discussion: Finance Dept. Budget by Sarah Johnson

- Current opening for AP Clerk; ready to start interviews
- Continue reviewing reserve & other financial policies
- Maintained reserves
- AA+ Bond rating
- Discussion on division of financial labor between schools and town; RP indicates schools are being coached on proper warrant process to reduce burden on finance dept.
- Discussion of personnel line increases for budget; increases not included on staffing sheets, but 2.5% included in departmental budget personnel lines

Various discussion points amongst the members included:

- MG requests excel version of budget docs to enable excel calculations of numbers to better recommend amendments

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:20.