



Town of Burlington

BURLINGTON BOARD OF FINANCE SPECIAL MEETING May 5, 2021

A meeting of the Burlington Board of Finance was held on Wednesday, May 5, 2021, as a virtual Zoom Conferencing meeting. Board members present were: Gerald Mullen, Chairman, John Achilli, Susan Brault, Steve Carrier, John Kirschner, Mark Klepacki and Andrew Klimkoski. Also in attendance was First Selectman Theodore Shafer and Finance Director Elisa Michell.

Chairman Mullen declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2021-22 Budget

The Board reviewed the proposed budget for the Police Department. Police capital requests to be removed from the budget and taken from the existing reserve account balance. Other Town-wide capital requests were also discussed. Mr. Shafer reported that the Town may be prohibited from granting any new tax abatements for seniors, veterans, farmers or BVFD volunteers. Some legal questions were raised regarding the Town Charter and current ordinances. May need to change Town ordinances first. In addition, taxes have already been determined based on the 2020 Grand List assessments. The Town is obtaining legal advice from counsel. Board of Selectmen to take up these issues at their meeting on May 11th.

The Board discussed a rough estimate of the current budget. At the start of the budget process, the proposed budget was a 2.32% increase over the current fiscal budget. Half due to Region 10 and the other being the Town's portion. The Grand List increased by 1.48%. The current mill rate of 33.3 would increase by 0.7 mills. Since then, Region 10 reduced its budget and the Board worked with department leaders to reduce the Town's operating budget. A rough estimate is the mill rate would need to be increased by 0.1 mills. The topic of having no increase in lieu of being able to grant any tax abatements was discussed. Another \$100,000 in cuts may still be needed to avoid any increase.

Chairman Mullen reminded Board members the May 12th special meeting will be the last one before the Town Budget Hearing set for May 18th at 7:30 p.m. The next meeting will focus on projected revenues and finalizing the 2021-22 Town Budget that will be presented at the Hearing.

Adjournment

Chairman Mullen declared no further business was on the agenda. He then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion made and seconded by Kirschner/Klimkoski, at 7:44 p.m. it was unanimously VOTED TO:

Adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew J. Klimkoski

Andrew Klimkoski, Secretary