

Town of Washington
Board of Finance
January 27, 2020

Present:	Members: Michael Jackson, Craig Schoon, Barbara Brown, Matt Cane, Sally Cornell
Alternates:	Harry Wyant
Selectmen:	Jim Brinton, Michelle Gorra
Treasurer:	Linda McGarr

Chairman Michael Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes: A motion to approve the November 18, 2019 minutes and the change in the September 16, 2019 minutes by Barbara Brown and second by Craig Schoon and unanimously approved.

Tax Collector Report: No Questions.

Treasurer Report: The Treasurer, Linda McGarr reported that she has in writing that our banks will not wire transfer out of our accounts. There was a bank that had funds transfer out of there account. We have scheduled a cyber security seminar at the town hall on Friday February 7th. We will be transferring more money into CD's.

Selectman: Jim Brinton reported:

- Have started the budget process and are bringing in all department heads.
- Have purchase a used truck from Pennsylvania and Woodbury. We have taken the problem truck off the road for the winter and going to use it as a hauler truck.
- We will know January or February if the Rabbit Hill bridge will be a 50/50 match for State funds. It is a \$750,000 project.
- OPM is taking back funds on STEEP grants that have not been used. We have \$350,000 in STEEP money for Mygatt road that is inhouse. We are confident that we will have no problems with that. We just did the property transfer from Eddie Johnson and the engineers are repricing the plans since the originals were done some time ago.

Financial Reports: No Questions

Education:

- February 4, 2020 is there 18-19 audit meeting at 9:00am. Three checks will be coming back to the town. The town will receive our portion, around 48% of \$296.000 excess revenue, \$158,000 for incumbered expenditure for the construction, \$280,000 for incumbered expense for the tennis courts which they were able to fund through the budget.

- They have wrapped up the teachers contracts and is going to the board tonight. It is signed by the union. It is .1% above the state average.
- They do not have final budget numbers. They are trying to come under the 2%
- There were 65 applicants for the ag-science program. There is 28 out of district but may only be able to take 26 depending on the sending towns. There was a huge group of inhouse students wanting to be part of the program. There are 18 and are looking to take 18. Everyone who is the program are staying.
- Last of the construction project should be done by the end of the month. They will have to come back in the spring for landscaping.
- They are expecting the construction project to come under budget.
- School districts can set aside 1% of their budget for capital expense and the state move that to 2% could be set aside but forgot to include regional school districts. It was an oversight and they hope to correct it soon.
- The roof project at the high school still needs to be done and it will be 1.6 million. They are hoping to get all the paperwork together so it can be voted on when the towns vote on the school budget referendum.
- Student population as of October 1 is 701.
- 82 student "tuition in" not including the ag – science program.

Old Business:

Nomination of Alternate to fill vacancy is tabled until Selectmen Jim Brinton interviews Elizabeth Fenton.

New Business:

A motion to adjourn at 5:18 by Barbara Brown, seconded by Michael Jackson unanimously approved.

Next Meeting February 24, 2020 at 5:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Kennedy Gomez
Financial Director