

# Town of Williamsburg

## Minutes of the Finance Committee Williamsburg Town Offices 12 April 2017

Members Present: Paul Wetzel, Linda Rowley, Richard Kisloski, Charles Dudek, Eric Cerreta , Charlie Heath

Members absent: Steven Romanowski, Chris Morris, Jacqueline Dufresne  
Library Board members and Staff present: Pat Billingsly, Katie Krohl, Cynthia Barker, Charlotte Merriman.

Town Administrator, Charlene Nardi was also present.

The meeting was called to order by co-chair Paul Wetzel at 5:34 p.m.

Library staff reported on the current status of the Library:

1. Repairs to the stairs to the historic Meekins Library entrance will be completed this summer. The final cost to the Town is estimated to be \$19,000 less than anticipated primarily because the Library received a grant of \$15,000 from the Massachusetts Historical Commission.
2. Library ranked as a high priority for many Town residents and it serves as a “community center” for the Town.
3. The library provides many services including—access to books, other media, and technology, group meetings, community events and meetings, programs for adults and children, art exhibits, and provides library service for the elementary school.

The Library requested funds for part-time school circulation assistant and circulation clerk (total \$5500). The amount of \$1500 was also requested for materials and supplies.

Questions from the Finance Committee included why not charge for meetings at the library? [Response was that it is a Town resource and should be available for resident use.] Why not charge fines for overdue items? [Fines are charged for overdue DVDs; charging fines for books is more trouble than the amount of money earned.]

The Library receives recurring sources of income from State Aid, the school library program, and the Kmit and Meekins Trust funds. The amount of income from these sources in FY18 is expected to be \$44,345.

David Mathers (Select Board) requested that the salary of the Town Administrator be increased \$13,064. The reason was that the position was originally a 32 hour per week position, but the Town Administrator really works over 40 hours per week.

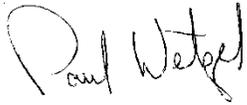
William Sayer, (Select Board) discussed with the Committee that the Committee on the Safety Complex needs an overall budget value to proceed with their work. He asked the Committee to project the expected Town debt over time and to estimate what is an affordable tax rate for the Town for the next 20 years.

On 18 April there will be an all boards meeting. The Committee discussed points that should be brought up in that meeting. Points included whether humps in debt obligations should be smoothed with free cash payments. The Town must consider large potential expenses in the next 10 years. Finally, to point out the major changes in the FY18 budget and whether increasing the budget 4% each year is sustainable. P. Wetzel will create a short slide presentation and give the presentation at the meeting.

Minutes from the meeting held 5 April 2017 were reviewed. E. Cerreta moved to approve the minutes with wording changes; C. Dudek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business before the Committee, L. Rowley moved to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by C. Heath. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Wetzel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and "W".

Paul R. Wetzel