



**Town of Harvard**  
**Finance Committee**  
Minutes for Dec 5, 2018

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**Location:** Upper Town Hall Meeting Room- 13 Ayer Rd

**Present:** Don Ludwig (chair), John Seeley, Mark Buell, Richard Fellows, Jennifer Finch, Bruce Nickerson, Charles Oliver, Siko Sikochi (7:11), Ray Marchica

**Absent:**

**Others:** Tim Bragan - Town Administrator

Don Ludwig (chair) called the meeting to order at 7:01pm

**Minutes:** Minutes of Nov 7, 2018 Suggested amendments: Mark: regarding profit center - "p&r cannot be a profit center" - can create revenue.

Liaison reports, John - heavy duty truck (add).

Minutes of Nov 7, 2018 approved as amended on a John/Mark motion.

**Other news:**

New associate member Ray Marchica was welcomed to the committee.

**Public Commentary:** None

**Town Administrator's report:** Tim Bragan

- Residential electric aggregation - moving forward at state, hearing in Nov - questions were asked and answered. Won't hear anything back until Mid-March
- Applied for a MassWorks grant, didn't receive. 5 bay doors at fire station - \$4000 - other \$16000 is grant. Energy savings grant from National Grid.
- Fire traffic study came back - area can handle all of the traffic proposed.
- Tax classification hearing. Supporting document 1 - Tax Classification Hearing - Board of Assessors
- 95.5% is residential - nothing shifted. Estimated tax rate for FY20 is 17.42 up from 17.15 DOR needs to approve. New growth is \$181,556 - which is significant.
- Supporting document 2 - Final and approved P&R Audit from RCA.
- Little Women - final bill, just under \$100k. Police, fire, DPW, rentals, some is OT. About \$70k is town revenue. \$10k to restore property - to P&R. Dec 24, 2019 - Little Women movie release date.

- Budgets have been coming in. Deadline was Monday. Different stages of questions coming in and going out. Not a lot of questions coming in.
- Supporting document 3 - budget submissions and status
- School District - pick up budget on the 12th, questions due back on the 20th. Binder coming.
- Warrant articles are due by Jan 11, by bylaw Jan 15th. Dec 18th - CPIC will present to Select Board, FinCom invited to attend.
- Over Christmas/New Years holiday - Tim will do the recap sheet and continue budget work.
- Coil Bros - probably will receive approval - host agreement signing to be on the 18th of Dec.

**Finance Director's report:** No Finance Director yet.

**Liaison Reports:**

Don: SBC: Estimates came in for 60% MSBA documents - \$800k over budget. List of VE - nothing major, cosmetic. Extra VE was cut for contingencies. Early bid packages in Jan, 90% MSBA document submission in Feb/March.

Interest rates seem stable - hopefully will hold until bond in July.

Jennifer: Schools: \$600k over budget, \$302k over level service. Custodian switch over changed things from non-salary to salary, approximate \$350k change.

Discussed Macbook leases vs buy. Long ROI. School Committee took no action at this time.

**Other business:** None

Motion to adjourn made and approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:54pm.

**Supporting Documents:** Tax Classification Hearing, Park and Rec Audit from RCA, Budget Submissions and Status

**Upcoming meetings:**

Jan 26, Saturday, 9am, Joint SB/SC/FC meeting Upper Town Hall Meeting Room

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Finch