

**PERMANENT MINUTES
FINANCE COMMITTEE
TOWN OF MIDDLETON
FLINT PUBLIC LIBRARY
February 26, 2019
7:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Richard Gregorio (Co-Chair); Toni Mertz; Michelle Cresta; and Jason Vining

Members Absent: John Erickson (Co-Chair); John M. Mahoney and George E. Dow, Sr.

Others Present: Scott Morrison (Superintendent of Schools); Steven Greenberg (Assistant Superintendent of Operations); Matt LaCava (Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services); Melissa Gaspar (Flint Director); Loretta Johnson (Flint Ass't Director); Annie Wilton; Ann M. Noyes; and Cortney B. Dalen (Recording Secretary)

Call to Order - R. Gregorio called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Budget Discussion with Flint Public Library- M. Gaspar reported that circulation is up 21%, attendance is up 15% and programing is up 86%, however, employee wages are about 10% less than surrounding libraries. Realizing that a 9% increase in wages is a big ask, M. Gaspar instead is asking for a 4/3/2 percent increase over the next 3 years. Nothing new in the budget since the Saturday budget meeting (basically level funded since last year). J. Vining questioned what the overall compensation (salary, insurance, vacation pay, etc) is in Middleton vs. other comparable towns. No capital budget plans for the Library.

Budget Discussion with Elementary Schools - S. Greenberg reported the operating budget started at 9%. Deliberation process has started to try to get that number down. After some adjustments, the budget will likely be down to around 7.2%. Looking at the possibility of using some of the Special Education stabilization account to bring down the budget further. Some more work to be done. School Committee will be meeting in March to further deliberate. M. LaCava advised that the tuition cost of out of district schools has increased, which has lead to an increase in certain Special Education line items. Will discuss Capital budget further on the March 2 meeting.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes - *J. Vining motioned to approve the Preliminary Minutes*

of February 5, 2019. Seconded by T. Mertz. Motion passed 4-0-0.

New Business - There will be a Finance Committee meeting before the Special Town Meeting on March 19, 2019.

Adjournment - *T. Mertz motioned to adjourn at 7:47 p.m. Seconded by M. Cresta. Motion passed 4-0-0.*

Respectfully submitted,

Cortney B. Dalen

As per the Open Meeting Law, listed below are the documents either distributed to the Finance Committee before the meeting or at the meeting:

1. Agenda
2. Preliminary Minutes of February 5, 2019
3. Budget Packet from Flint Public Library