

Town of Blandford Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

March 18th, 2019

Open Session: 7:00pm

Present: **JLombardo**, chair, **JBull** and **AQuinn**, members, **JGarcia**, Town Administrator, **MBrennan**, Historical Commission, **MBoomsma**, Tree Warden, **RSenecal**, Highway Department

1. Department Head Meetings – the following were scheduled to meet:

- **Highway Department** – **RSenecal** met again today with a completed budget requesting an overall additional \$105k in order to address various needs of the town that have not been addresses over the past few years. This request also includes an additional staff person to help complete the work needed. Mr. Senecal noted the need for work on tree canopies for several roads in town, and also new equipment that is needed to replace broken or old equipment currently being used. This request includes the previous budget requests for repairing roads and new vehicles.
- **Historical Commission** – Mr. Brennan requested a \$400 increase along with a new budget line item for a consultant. This is to complete the historical town building inventory list that needs to be submitted to the state. This would allow for additional funding through grants that the town can apply for through the state.
- **Tree Warden** – Mr. Boomsma requested a \$490 increase in expense line item for additional tree work needed in FY20. All other line items were requested to be level funded with a caveat noted that if the Birch Hill project was scheduled to be started in FY20 the outside service line item would need to be doubled to \$40k in order to cover this work.

2. Other Business

- **None noted.**

General Discussion – Joshua Garcia discussed meeting with the selectmen to review and approve the FY20 budget. Will send over numbers based on current requests to be looked at by the finance committee and narrowed down for meeting with selectmen. Looked at final overall budget figures to be aiming for and what departments were still outstanding for requested budgets for FY20.

Tabled:

- Review and approval of minutes from February 4th, March 4th, and March 11th until next meeting on March 25th, 2019.
- Hearing to review budget with Water Department

Meeting Adjourned