



Groveland MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF GROVELAND

2025 JAN 30 AM 9:05

Board/Committee Name: Finance Board
Date: January 15, 2025
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Location: Town Hall – Main Meeting Room
183 Main Street, Groveland, MA 01834

Board Members:

Present: Jim Scanlon, Ruth Rivard, Melissa Baker, Mark Huber, Bill O'Neil (5:12 arrival), Adam Haywood (5:26 arrival)

Absent: Alex Woods

Other Attendees: Rebecca Oldham-Town Administrator, Ellen Petrillo- Town Accountant

Melissa Baker called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

Town Department Budget Reviews

- Town Clerk Budget, presented by Town Clerk Beth Cunniff
 - Reviewed Budget, highlighting fewer elections in FY26 and noting the desire to increase poll worker wage. Jim Scanlon expressed his support this. Echoed by Bill O'Neil.
- Assessors Budget, presented by Assessing Manager Julie Yebba
 - No substantial changes
- Police and Emergency Mgmt Budget, presented by Chief Jeff Gillen
 - Reviewed Budget, main increases due to contractual increases, request for additional officer, and request to join the Northeastern MA Law Enforcement Council. Challenge with turnover as officers explore more lucrative positions in larger communities. The Chief also expressed how well Police works with Fire Departments.
- Fire Department Budget, presented by Chief Robert Valentine
 - Staffing and recruiting will be challenging due to the trend of fewer call fire fighters which will put pressure on the staff fire fighters. This is anticipated to be an ongoing concern. Calls continue to increase, including medical calls. The Fire Department is more of an all response team.

11.20.24 Meeting Minutes: Motion by Jim Scanlon to accept minutes, seconded by Melissa. Vote; 5 in favor, 1 abstention (Bill O'Neil who was absent from the meeting).

Discussion of contents of Finance Board booklet to Town Meeting. Ruth suggested start thinking about this now, no decisions made.

Town Administrator Updates:

- Summer Camp Update: Town will partner with the YMCA to run the camp this summer.
- Trash Committee: Survey results have been coming in, with over 600 responses. Committee will be making a summary presentation to the Select Board.

Next meeting scheduled for January 29 at 5:00pm.

Motion to adjourn made by Jim, seconded by Melissa. Vote- unanimously passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:47.

Minutes prepared by: *Ruth Rivard*

Minutes approved on: 1.29.25

Meeting Materials:

1. Department Budget Reports

Finance Board meetings are recorded and available for replay at www.grovelandma.com.