

**Westport Finance Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Hybrid Meeting  
February 06, 2024**

Present: Karen Raus (Chair) , Cindy Brown )Vice-Chair), Al Lees, Hugh Morton ,Christopher Thrasher ,Gary Carreiro, Zachary Lebreux Duncan Law ,Michelle Orlando

School Committee /Administration: Nancy Staton -Cross, Evan Gendreau, Gloria Cabral, Michelle Rapoza, Melissa Souza, Antonio Viveiros, Melissa Pacheco Thomas Aubin

Also Present: Jim Hartnett, Nicole Pearsall

Karen Raus called the meeting to order at 6:31pm, and a Pledge of Allegiance

Karen Raus (Chair) opened the meeting with continuing with budget department meetings

**1.Discussion with the School Committee/School AdministrationFy25 budget/addition supporting information requested:**

- A. School Department :** The School Administration and Committee were in attendance to present there Fy25 budget Michelle Rapoza and Thomas Aubin gave a presentation for the budget, which is on the school website for viewing, A few things that were mentioned were in the budget with the Fixed Budget Fy24 amounts \$21,435,162 which includes the \$500,000 in free cash and the Proposed Fy25 \$23,097,568 with an increase of \$1,662,406 which does include free cash. The amount without free cash would be \$1,016,56 for Fy25 budget.

They presentation continued and mentioned a breakdown of the school budget of regular education salaries and expenses for Fy 25 of \$15,100,648 Special education salaries of \$5,057,875.Special education expenses \$556,433 Transportation expenses \$2,382,612 A difference from Fy24 to Fy25 of \$1,662,406 a 7.76% from last year. Salaries are 80 % of the budget with 20 % for expenses. There was continued discussion on circuit breaker and the process ,federal and state grants and revolving fund account and school choice. The Chapter 70 funding amount \$5,590,280 for Fy25.

**2.Discussion of other department Fy25 budgets, 5-year operating, and capitol plans Fy25 overall Town budget: N/A**

**3. Committee/Liaison updates:** Karen Rause mentioned the finance committee needs someone for the Internet Advisor Committee as a liaison. Duncan Law mentioned he would like to be the liaison.

**Motion:** Cindy presented a motioned for Duncan Law to be appointed to the Internet Advisor Committee with Al Lees seconded the approval. The roll call vote was 8-0 in favor Raus ;aye, Brown; aye Lebreux ;aye Lees; aye Orlando;aye, Law;aye, Carreiro;aye Morton ;aye Thrasher ; abstained

**4.Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for January 23, 2024 , was presented for approval Cindy Brown motioned and Hugh Morton seconded to approve. The roll call vote was 8-0 in favor

Morton :aye Raus ;aye,Brown ;aye Carreiro;aye Law;aye,Lebreux ;aye,Thrasher;aye Lees ;aye Orlando ; abstained.

The minutes for January 31, 2024 , was presented for approval Cindy Brown motioned and Hugh Morton seconded to approve. The roll call vote was 8-0 in favor Morton :aye Raus ;aye Brown :aye Thrasher; aye Lees; aye Lebreux; aye ,Carreiro;aye Law ;aye Orlando ;abstained .

**5.Meeting Schedule:** February 20, 2024 (Remote)

**6. Correspondence:** N/A

**7.Topic for next Meeting Agenda:** Highway budget and Accountant budget Possible draft of the Warrant Articles , Budget from Select Board

**8. Adjourn :**There being no further business to come before this meeting a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27pm was made by Cindy Brown and Al Lees seconded the roll call vote was 9-0 all in favor. Raus ;aye Morton ;aye Thrasher ;aye Lees ;aye Brown; aye. Lebreux; aye Carreiro ;aye Orlando ;aye Law;aye

Respectfully submitted,  
Jessica McKane  
Finance Committee Recording Clerk

**REFERENCE DOCUMENTS:**

Committee &Liaison Appointments Fy24 REVISED Jan 23, 2024.xlsx  
01-23-24 Meeting Minutes Finance Committee.pdf  
1-31-24 Meeting Minutes Finance Committee with Select Board and School Committee .pdf  
Fy25 Budget Fincom Presentation 2-6-24pdf  
Fy25 Proposed School Committee Educational Budget .pdf  
Email correspondence Short Term Rental By-Law.pdf

