

**Minutes
Tri-Board
Select Board/School Committee/Finance and Advisory Board
Media Center
Stoneham Central Middle School
101 Central Street
Tuesday, March 12, 2019
7:00 p.m.**

Board Members Present: Chairwoman Shelly MacNeill, Vice Chairwoman Raymie Parker, Clerk George Seibold, Select Board Member Anthony Wilson

Committee Members Present: Chairwoman Rachel Meredith-Warren, David Maurer, Nicole Niall, Thomas Dalton, Jaime Wallace

Finance and Advisory Board Members Present: Chairman Tim Waitkevich, Andrew Harmon, Heidi Bilbo, Wendy Smith, Jeremy Doyle

Also Present: Town Administrator Dennis Sheehan, Superintendent John Macero, David Castellarin, Town Accountant, Lauren Celli, Director of Finance, Tom Barry, Capital Committee Chairman

Agenda Item 1: Pledge of Allegiance

MacNeill welcomed the three Boards and each Board opened its meeting.

MacNeill thanked Castellarin and Al Rego for returning from a conference to attend the meeting. She continued by thanking each Board for its participation in the budget process. She stated that the process has been cooperative and that a better product has been produced because of the process. Meredith-Warren stated that the process has been cooperative and free of drama.

The Select Board presented Wilson with a gavel and thanked him for his service to the community. Wilson stated that he had no idea that the Board was going to do this and he will miss working with everyone on a regular basis.

Agenda Item 2: FY20 Budget Discussion Sheehan thanked Wilson for his service. Sheehan stated that the FY20 budget is a leap forward in transparency, creates a procurement and facilities department that will be shared by the school and the Town, creates new positions at the Council on Aging, Police Department, Fire Department, and DPW, and contains a significant increase in the school budget. Castellarin stated that the budget adds significant services to the Town, increases the reserve fund, increases the Town Counsel line, combines the Clerk's office

with the Elections Department for realized savings, and shows significant savings in pension benefits.

MacNeill asked Macero if the creation of the procurement position is part of or a requirement of the MSBA building process. Macero stated that the MSBA will look for that position as part of the process and it is actually a required position for the construction project. He stated that the timing is perfect. Macero thanked Wilson for his work and stated that it was a pleasure working with him. Macero stated that there is a 1.3 million dollar increase in the school budget this year. He stated that he is happy with the way the Town and the school worked together in creating positions and he is looking forward to building up a facilities department that will create a significant savings. Macero discussed the feasibility study and stated that it is a requirement of the MSBA and an MSBA approved designer must be chosen to complete the study. He stated that he is working to keep interest low and reimbursement high and stated that about 50% of the feasibility study will be reimbursed by the MSBA.

Barry briefly discussed the Capital Improvement Plan. He stated that there were 4.1 million in capital requests that were submitted and only 1.3 million to work with. He stated that the Committee selected projects that would allow funds to go further based on grant reimbursements. Barry thanked Wilson for his hard work with the Committee.

Wilson stated that the FY20 budget is structurally balanced, creates positions in procurement and facilities, incorporates recurring capital purchases into the operating budget and that he is in support of the budget.

Seibold stated that he is glad to see an extra \$140,000 dedicated to roads, but that is not enough to do the job properly. He stated that this budget process has been drama free. He thanked Wilson for his work with the budget and thanked Rego and Castellarin for their work on the budget. Wilson suggested in future budgets the town reserve a portion of the new growth for roads. The town typically has \$400k in new growth. A commitment of \$100k of that new growth each year over 7 years is \$700k a year plus the chapter 90 finds. This totals the requires \$1.2m.

MacNeill stated that the Boards have begun to take a holistic look at the community and change the narrative and to stop the negativity between the Boards.

Parker asked Castellarin if the decrease in pension funding takes the Town off schedule for full funding by 2023. Castellarin stated that the Town is on schedule.

Wilson moved to support the FY20 budget and refer it to the Finance and Advisory Board. Parker seconded the motion. Voted unanimously (4-0).

Agenda Item 3: FY2021 Budget Process Discussion MacNeill stated that she would like next year's budget process to follow a similar path. Maurer stated that he would like to set long term goals for the community, including a 50 year plan.

Public member Dolly Wilson stated that 2025 is the 300th anniversary of Stoneham and this is a great opportunity to think about where the Town wants to be in the future.

The Boards adjourned their meetings. Parker moved to adjourn the Select Board's meeting. Wilson seconded the motion. Voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dava Kilbride – Secretary to the Board of Selectmen