

JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM  
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018  
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The Chair opens the meeting

- Meeting was opened at 6:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room
- **Selectboard Members present:** Christopher Boutwell and Michael Nelson. Richard Kuklewicz was absent.
- **Finance Committee members present:** Michael Naughton, Jen Audley, Fred Bowman, Chris Menegoni, Richard Widmer and John Hanold. Greg Garrison was absent.
- **Others present:** Town Administrator Steve Ellis, Town Accountant Carolyn Olsen, Town Planner Walter Ramsey, RiverCulture Coordinator Suzanne LoManto, and Acting Police Chief Chris Bonnett, GMRSD School Committee Chair Timmie Smith and GMRSD Superintendent Michael Sullivan.
- The Finance Committee Chair announced that the meeting is being recorded by MCCI and asked if anyone else was recording the meeting. No one else was recording the meeting.

**Minutes –**

Finance Committee Moved:

To approve the minutes of February 28, 2018.

Vote:   6   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To approve the minutes of February 28, 2018.

Vote:   2   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

**Special Town Meeting March 29, 2018**

There are just two articles on the warrant: A new DPW Facility and a prior year unpaid bill of the Planning Department.

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There was a legal bill for the MEDIC property that got misdirected and was not received until recently.

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$756 for a prior year unpaid bill of the Planning Department, to be funded from Free Cash.

Vote:   6   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$756 for a prior year unpaid bill of the Planning Department, to be funded from Free Cash.

Vote:   2   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

**New DPW Facility**

- Mr. Menegoni does not support the heated area for vehicle storage and thinks that block heaters would be more than adequate to keep diesel trucks ready to go.
- Mr. Bowman reminded everyone that we are currently looking at conceptual plans, and the final plan may be different.
- Mr. Widmer thinks that the cost is too high given his awareness of our other needs. Mr. Widmer also feels that the DPW facility is absolutely needed.
- Mr. Bowman feels the price is reasonable to meet the clear need, and that the daily cost to the taxpayer is not much. Mr. Bowman also feels that future growth in the tax base will fund future needs.
- Ms. Audley thinks the need is clear, it's already been kicked back to the committee once, and it's time to do it.
- Mr. Naughton will reluctantly support this largely because the voters should ultimately have the choice, but is disappointed that there isn't a better rationale for the cost. Feels that there are some things in the plan that aren't needed, wishes more cost savings had been found earlier. Doesn't feel he can enthusiastically support the project.

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- Mr. Ellis respects the diversity of opinion and the rationale behind those opinions. The building committee strongly feels that this is needed. We need a responsible project that is efficient, safe and appropriate to what the town needs that department to do. We know we will need this structure and its appointments to be as appropriate as possible for use for 40+ years. Our designer said this is the cheapest building that can be built and meet our needs. It barely meets the needs of current staffing.

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$11,146,762 for a new DPW Facility, to be funded from borrowing subject to a debt exclusion vote.

Vote:   4   In Favor        1   Opposed        1   Abstained

The Selectboard recommended this earlier at a Selectboard meeting.

### **RiverCulture**

Previously submitted questions and answers:

1. At May 2017 Town Meeting, town was told RiverCulture needed an emergency “bridge” appropriation, but none has been spent and the proposed intern has not been utilized; what does this indicate happened (or not happened) during the current year?

42% of the RiverCulture budget has been spent. The program carried \$26,317 of reserves into the current fiscal year. As of February 7, the program spent down those reserves, thus the \$20,000 town meeting special article funds are currently being used. Without those funds there would be no RiverCulture program as of February 2018. The principal reason for being under budget is due to less programming this year because of the focus on transition planning, and increased grant writing. RiverCulture applied for and received a \$5,000 grant from the Mass Cultural Council, and helped project partner The Brick House apply for a MCC YouthReach grant, which would direct \$15,000 annually to the Center for creative expression programming for local youth.

Increasingly, Montague is attracting partners who bring funding for co-sponsored cultural events, lowering the overall cost of production for RiverCulture. A few examples include the Pocumtuck Homelands Festival which brings nearly \$10,000 in in-kind funds, and the River Valley Ice Cream Ride which actually paid RiverCulture \$1,600 for event coordination.

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RiverCulture has larger projects on the agenda for the Spring, including some new wayfinding signage for the Turners Falls Cultural District.

75% of the graduate-level intern budget has been spent. The assistant is still working for the Planning Department through the Spring semester. She has been a tremendous asset, having helped me research and successfully pass a marijuana bylaw and a complete streets policy (which will enable access to special transportation funds). She is assisting me with a major zoning overhaul project that will be presented publicly over the next few months.

Regarding the FY18 “bridge funding”, I will comment that Suzanne and myself have been doing due diligence to identify sustainable funding sources through FY19 and beyond. The Mass Cultural Council re-programmed the Adams Grant funding into a new program to fund the buildout of cultural spaces in private development projects. Unfortunately that translates to a drain of funds from Montague to larger communities with sophisticated developers. Regrettably we are not in a position to expand fundraising/business support to a level that will fund the coordinator’s position; however we will be able to fundraise to support programming.

2. In place of the intern you now request a permanent 25 hr/wk position in FY2019; what work-scope in FY2018-2019, related to your intern plan, has been deleted as a result?

I recognize how substantial this financial request is to the town, so I’ve trimmed my budget to help offset the expense. The main benefit of the graduate level assistant is to research best practices and draft policy documents/grant applications for my review and approval. While this assistance is immensely helpful, I am willing to forgo the opportunity to receive technical support from an intern and take those tasks back on myself. The way I see it, I am asking for more from the town so I need to work harder.

3. The Narrative states that Cultural Co-Ord program costs will be fund-raised separately. How confident are you that bridge funding will not be needed later?

RiverCulture has had initial conversations with major fundraising contributors who have reaffirmed that they will continue to contribute to the program. In fact it is anticipated to be easier to solicit sponsorships and raise funds that will translate directly to programming. RiverCulture plans to set up a 501c(3) to further aid fundraising for the arts. This is based on a similar model in Easthampton (City Arts)

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3. Spending to date in FY2018 on other expense-lines is well below the level approved, and is also below the FY2019 request. Does this mean planned activities are changing, and that the FY2019 request is higher than needed?

See response #1. FY18 is an anomaly year. RiverCulture has been focused on transition planning. The ability to plan major events and undertake substantial projects has been dogged by uncertainty of funding. For example, Suzanne has begun planning a Montague -wide open studio tour with the Sawmill River Arts Collective in Montague Center. The event would correspond with local college graduations and potentially bring hundreds of tourists to Montague. Because of funding uncertainty, plans have been put off until next year.

4. Please share a copy of the draft job description for the Cultural Coordinator, including the qualifications needed and the extent of supervision expected. How does it differ from the prior RiverCulture activity?

Draft Job description is included. The hours remain the same for the proposed position (25), but there is a modest change in scope. The position will now be responsible for providing services to all of Montague rather than just Turners Falls. The position will be responsible for coordination of the Turners Falls Cultural District which will demand some level of focus on the downtown. The RiverCulture Executive Committee will now be an appointed body that provides directional support to the Director, whereas the current steering committee is not formerly appointed. This will provide a more formal structure of accountability to the public. The Coordinator will also provide secondary support to the Local Cultural Council. The coordinator will thus be able to amplify/ focus the current work of that body.

5. Why can it not continue as a contract position?

The position has been contracted for the last 11 years for the purpose of implementing an Adam's Grant. Over that time the position and program has evolved. Since there is no longer a grant to implement, it is believed that the position no longer meets the criteria to qualify as a independent contractor under MGL c 148 Sec 148B (MA Independent Contractor Law).

6. How do other towns pursue the goals Montague has for this function?

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Easthampton was explored as a model. Easthampton has a full time cultural coordinator that provides support to Easthampton City Arts, The Easthampton Cultural Council, and the Cottage Street Cultural District. Their position started with Adams Grant funding as well. Programming funds are raised by Easthampton City Arts – a 501 c(3) (not the City) The members of ECA are appointed by the Mayor. The City funds the position and the position is in the planning department.

Wealthier communities like Amherst and Northampton have Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) that are able fund staff and programming to support downtown development through an additional tax on businesses in a district. Montague does not have the critical mass of downtown businesses to support a BID.

7. If it were not funded in FY2019, or at the 25 hr. level, what specifically would be done elsewhere (or not at all)?

It will be VERY difficult to attract a candidate and meet community's objectives at anything less than 25 hours. I know this is a 25 hour per week position based on 11 years of workflow. Less hours equates to less productivity from the Planning Department/RiverCulture program in terms of community building and economic development. Less grantmaking, fewer events and lost partnerships will slow the course of revitalization. Additionally, the creative economy revitalization model which has proved so successful in Turners Falls will not be able to be employed in the village of Millers Falls.

Not funding the position in FY19 would effectively sunset the program. Our pipeline of signature partner-driven annual events (River Valley Ice Cream Ride, Franklin County Cider Days, Pockumtuck Homelands Festival, Great Falls Word Festival, etc.) would have no one to assist them with locating their event in Montague next year. New events and creative economy businesses will not be recruited. The RiverCulture website and community events calendar would go down. The many partners RiverCulture has would no longer gravitate to Montague. There would not be a person responsible for organizing the recently designated Cultural District, or facilitate income generating events with the Shea Theater. Arguably, the absence of the position would place an additional burden on Planning Department and Board of Selectmen to attempt to maintain existing partnerships. But without proper support from the town those partnerships will likely diminish.

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Tonight's discussion:

Mr. Ramsey and Ms. LoManto were present to address any questions. Mr. Hanold asked about the connection between the new coordinator position and town commissions, boards and other groups. Mr. Ramsey reviewed a provided flow chart that shows these connections. A list of inputs, outputs and outcomes for Fiscal Year 2019 was also distributed.

The planning budget is level services as requested and includes 25 hour per week of the Cultural Coordinator because this function is part of the level services, even though the position is currently funded from other sources. RiverCulture is currently steered by a group of people. The proposal includes a committee appointed by the Selectboard to oversee the position. General administrative oversight would still be done by Mr. Ramsey. Mr. Nelson noted that the Selectboard would oversee committees and appointments to committees as well as overseeing Mr. Ramsey. Mr. Hanold asked if the Montague Cultural Council and the RiverCulture Executive Committee are overlapping. Ms. Audley explained that the Cultural Council is a state designed committee with the specific purpose of allocating state grant money. To shift the function of the Cultural Council to oversee and meet with town employees will take time, and it makes more sense to formalize the current steering group into the RiverCulture Executive Committee. Ms. Audley also stated that the position of Cultural Coordinator isn't a new thing; it's an existing service for planning which was previously funded by grant. Creating the employee position ensures that the role played by the RiverCulture Coordinator continues in way that will amplify its value to town by not being a year to year position dependent on funding.

Mr. Boutwell asked if the cost of benefits has been considered. Mr. Ellis noted that current hourly rate compared to new wage plus benefits is fairly neutral. Mr. Ellis also noted that according to state law, it is much more appropriate to make this an employee position.

Mr. Ramsey said cost of position with 30% fringe is about \$32,700.

Ms. Audley thinks the planning department works incredibly hard and was concerned about giving up an intern to make space for this position. Ms. Audley wishes there was a way to both keep an intern and have this new position.

Mr. Naughton has several reservations. One is that he's a little uncomfortable with the town taking on the function of a cultural coordinator. Montague has several cultures, not all of them compatible. The purpose of government is to provide the infrastructure, but otherwise stay out

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of people's way. This position will mean that the town will be picking winners and losers. Ms. Audley said that ship sailed a long time ago, noting that the town's been contributing Community Development Block Grant funds all along, the program was developed by Montague staff, and Montague received state grants for RiverCulture. Mr. Ramsey thinks everyone agrees that Turners Falls is doing great and enjoy the downtown area, and much of that is due to work done by RiverCulture. Another concern by Mr. Naughton is that while Ms. LoManto does a wonderful job, she won't be here forever. How will success for this position be measured? How do you know if the benefits of the position are continuing, and which are a direct result of the program? Mr. Ramsey said this can be difficult, but he noted that the handout he provided of inputs and outputs provides a list of expectations and ways of measuring them that will be used going forward if this position is established. Mr. Naughton said that once a position is created it is very difficult to eliminate. If for whatever reason the position stops providing the benefit, will there be the willingness or desire to eliminate the position? His last concern is that he is unsure that Montague is able to do everything it tries to do well. Are we adding more things to do, and can we find people to be on this new oversight committee? Ms. Audley thinks there will be no problem filling the committee.

**Revised Schedules I and II** –Tabled as Board of Assessors have not yet met to discuss changing their stipend request.

**Gill-Montague Regional School District School Resource Officer**

GMRSD School Committee Chair Timmie Smith, Superintendent Sullivan and Acting Police Chief Bonnett were present to address this issue. The GMRSD School Committee preliminarily voted 7-2 to include a School Resource Officer (SRO) in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget. The expectation is that the school district would pay 75% of the costs of a new officer within the confines of the affordable assessment, and that Montague would fund the remaining 25% of costs. This will require adjustments to both the Police and Employee Benefits budgets.

The allocation of the costs between the town and school district are based on the expectation that the SRO would work for 75% of the calendar year at the school, and be available to the town for the remaining 25%. The SRO was high enough on school's priority list to fund this rather than other items. Mr. Sullivan has wanted a SRO for several years, but the district could not afford one. The recent school violence has influenced priority as well as the recent discovery of a student found to have several handguns. Mr. Sullivan sees a SRO as someone to prevent incidents by having relationships with students and families which will make students willing to speak to the SRO about any concerns. The things learned through



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relationships with students are critical to avoid incidents. Counselors are experts in their field, but mostly work with kids dealing with trauma, home situations, identity, and bullying. Students won't necessarily talk to a counselor about situations such as knowing students are talking about committing a crime, being concerned about a family member's well-being, or similar situations.

Someone asked how and when a SRO uses vacation time and earned compensatory time from working a five day week, and how much a SRO is really available to the town during the summer months. There is not a clear answer because there are so many variables. Having a third officer on rotation during the summer prevents paying for overtime if another officer on the same rotation takes time off, but because we can't tell officers when to take leave time this may not occur. Mr. Ellis said that we don't really get 25% of an officer because a disproportionate amount of time during the summer months will be taken off as compensatory time. Acting Chief Bonnett did note that we would now have 2 SROs during summer, and more opportunity for shift coverage.

Ms. Audley has heard concerns that the officer can be called out from school at any time. Acting Chief Bonnett said this is virtually a moot point, noting that Officer Sevene has never been called away from the Tech School in 4 years.

Mr. Hanold asked about additional costs to the police budget. Acting Chief Bonnett provided a cost breakdown, reviewed each cost, and noted which were subject to change and why. The estimated net increased cost to Montague is \$16,480.17. One cost not included is the costs for a new officer to attend the police academy. The need, cost and timing of this is uncertain and may not impact Fiscal Year 2019.

Mr. Naughton asked how we measure success. Acting Chief Bonnett suggested that if 2 families decide to keep their kids in school, the SRO pays for itself. Superintendent Sullivan noted that this is a real issue, noting that he has received 2 emails that families would choice students out if a SRO were not added. But in general, Superintendent Sullivan thinks a SRO simply adds to the mix of positives for staying in district.

Acting Chief Bonnett said that state law actually requires each police chief to assign a SRO, and a waiver is required to not assign one.

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Acting Chief Bonnett said another important point is that while a SRO is not a teacher, what is brought into the school building promotes an environment conducive to learning, and that SRO is part of the education team.

Mr. Widmer asked about the 4 positions being cut in the district budget. Those cuts have not changed. Superintendent Sullivan said the SRO issue came up before the increase in the affordable assessment. Mr. Widmer then asked the reasons for the 2 no votes. Superintendent Sullivan said it's hard to make that decision when the mission of the school is education. People feel strongly on both sides of issue.

There was no motion, but a consensus to adjust the police budget request to include a second SRO.

**Preliminary Budget Recommendations**

The budgets were reviewed, and recommendations made for departments and items for which no additional discussion was needed.

Mr. Naughton wants to see better management of the IT consultant, noting that the request for consulting costs are going up and the narrative says that more will be done, but no there is no way for the Finance Committee to know if this happens. Mr. Naughton also wants to see the number of hours spent on each item; what was done and how long was each task. Mr. Ellis will write a requirement of maintaining and submitting a work log into the next contract for IT support.

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$1,327,373 for general government budgets, broken down as follows:

113	Town Meeting	1,800
122	Selectmen	175,625
131	Finance Comm	680
132	Reserve Fund	60,000
135	Town Accountant	77,765

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141	Assessors	172,381
145	Treas/TaxColl	221,739
151	Town Counsel	98,000
155	Information Tech	47,100
159	Shared Costs	81,559
161	Town Clerk	156,710
175	Planning	114,059
176	ZBA	2,400
182	MEDIC	1,000
190	Pub Bldg Utilities	116,555

Vote: 6 In Favor      0 Opposed      0 Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$1,327,373 for general government budgets, broken down as follows:

113	Town Meeting	1,800
122	Selectmen	175,625
131	Finance Comm	680
132	Reserve Fund	60,000
135	Town Accountant	77,765
141	Assessors	172,381
145	Treas/TaxColl	221,739
151	Town Counsel	98,000

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155	Information Tech	47,100
159	Shared Costs	81,559
161	Town Clerk	156,710
175	Planning	114,059
176	ZBA	2,400
182	MEDIC	1,000
190	Pub Bldg Utilities	116,555

Vote:   2   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

It was noted that no justification for a regrade of the Building Inspector Administrative Assistant was provided. Mr. Ellis said he would not recommend that the Selectboard open the issue of regrades at this time.

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$454,981 for public safety budgets, broken down as follows:

212	Dispatch	295,792
241	Building Insp	132,108
244	Sealer of Weights	2,750
291	Emergency Mgmt	5,490
294	Forest Warden	1,631
299	Tree Warden	17,210

Vote:   6   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

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Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$454,981 for public safety budgets, broken down as follows:

212 Dispatch 295,792

241 Building Insp 132,108

244 Sealer of Weights 2,750

291 Emergency Mgmt 5,490

294 Forest Warden 1,631

299 Tree Warden 17,210

Vote: 2 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$141,525 for the Board of Health budget.

Vote: 6 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$141,525 for the Board of Health budget.

Vote: 2 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$2,088,609 for public works budgets, broken down as follows:

420 DPW 1,372,553

423 Snow&Ice 230,000

433 Solid Waste 479,056

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491 Cemeteries 7,000

Vote: 6 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$2,088,609 for public works budgets, broken down as follows:

420 DPW 1,372,553

423 Snow&Ice 230,000

433 Solid Waste 479,056

491 Cemeteries 7,000

Vote: 2 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$149,889 for human services budgets, broken down as follows:

541 COA 43,889

543 Vet Benefits 106,000

Vote: 6 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$149,889 for human services budgets, broken down as follows:

541 COA 43,889

543 Vet Benefits 106,000

Vote: 2 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$534,642 for culture and recreation budgets, broken down as follows:

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610 Libraries 401,962

630 Parks & Rec 130,980

691 Historical Comm 500

693 Soldiers' Memorial 1,200

Vote: 6 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$534,642 for culture and recreation budgets, broken down as follows:

610 Libraries 401,962

630 Parks & Rec 130,980

691 Historical Comm 500

693 Soldiers' Memorial 1,200

Vote: 2 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$629,774 for the debt budget.

Vote: 6 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$629,774 for the debt budget.

Vote: 2 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$101,036 for the intergovernmental budget.

Vote: 6 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

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Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$101,036 for the intergovernmental budget.

Vote:   2   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$91,000 for the general insurance budget.

Vote:   6   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$91,000 for the general insurance budget.

Vote:   2   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$2,017,231 for the WPCF budgets, broken down as follows, and funded with \$200,000 from taxation and \$1,817,231 from Sewer User Fees.

WPCF

440 WPCF                    1,314,508

700 WPCF Debt            390,221

910 WPCF Benefits        261,702

449 WPCF DPW Sub        50,800

Vote:   6   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$2,017,231 for the WPCF budgets, broken down as follows, and funded with \$200,000 from taxation and \$1,817,231 from Sewer User Fees.



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WPCF

440 WPCF 1,314,508

700 WPCF Debt 390,221

910 WPCF Benefits 261,702

449 WPCF DPW Sub 50,800

Vote: 2 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$51,039 for the Airport budget, funded with \$14,943 from taxation and \$36,096 from Airport User Fees.

Vote: 4 In Favor 2 Opposed 0 Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$51,039 for the Airport budget, funded with \$14,943 from taxation and \$36,096 from Airport User Fees.

Vote: 2 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$97,375 for the Colle budget, funded from Colle Receipts Reserved for Appropriation.

Vote: 6 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$97,375 for the Colle budget, funded from Colle Receipts Reserved for Appropriation.

Vote: 2 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

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Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$9,811,160 for the GMRSD assessment, funded with \$75,000 from Free Cash and \$9,736,160 from Taxation.

Vote: 6 In Favor      0 Opposed      0 Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$9,811,160 for the GMRSD assessment, funded with \$75,000 from Free Cash and \$9,736,160 from Taxation.

Vote: 2 In Favor      0 Opposed      0 Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend the following special articles and funding sources:

Montague Center Park Master Plan	7,000	Free Cash
Map Storage	30,000	Free Cash
Hillcrest Security Entrance	12,000	Free Cash
IT Discretionary	15,000	Taxation
WPCF Discretionary	20,000	Sewer User Fees

Vote: 6 In Favor      0 Opposed      0 Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend the following special articles and funding sources:

Montague Center Park Master Plan	7,000	Free Cash
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Map Storage	30,000	Free Cash
Hillcrest Security Entrance	12,000	Free Cash
IT Discretionary	15,000	Taxation
WPCF Discretionary	20,000	Sewer User Fees
Vote: <u>  2  </u> In Favor	<u>  0  </u> Opposed	<u>  0  </u> Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$50,000 for the OPEB Trust Fund, funded from Taxation.

Vote:   6   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$50,000 for the OPEB Trust Fund, funded from Taxation.

Vote:   2   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

Finance Committee Moved:

To recommend \$37,811 for the GMRSD Stabilization Fund, funded from Taxation.

Vote:   6   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

Selectboard Moved:

To recommend \$37,811 for the GMRSD Stabilization Fund, funded from Taxation.

Vote:   2   In Favor        0   Opposed        0   Abstained

Regarding the proposed appropriations into the town's general and capital stabilization funds, Mr. Naughton would like to consider adding enough so that balances are more than the minimum, and noted that other items in our financial policy are unknown until we receive the Capital Improvements Committee report.

**Topics not anticipated within in the 48 hour posting requirements** None

JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM  
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018  
Page 20 of 20

**Meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM**

**List of Documents and Exhibits:**

- Minutes of February 28, 2017
- Letters of Support for RiverCulture (4)
- Handouts regarding RiverCulture

**Next Meeting Dates:**

March 21, 2018	CIC Recommendations, discussion & recommendations for capital items, recommend revised Schedules I & II, additional budget recommendations
March 28, 2018	Final budget recommendations (adjust 211 wages per current contract status) and funding sources
April 4, 2018	Draft FC Report
April 11, 2018	Revise FC Report
April 18, 2018	final re-votes, if required, approve FC Report
EOY Recap	How beneficial/useful were the department narratives?