

Finance Committee Meeting March 23rd, 2022, 7:00 PM EST
Veterans Memorial Building – Room #229
Millis, MA 02054

In Attendance:

Peter Berube-Chair
Peter Underhill- Clerk
Joyce Boiardi
Jim Borgman
John Loer
Cathy MacInnes
John Steadman
Sara Reyes

Chair Peter Berube called the Finance Committee to order at 7:00pm

Select Board Chair Peter Jurmain called the Select Board to order at 7:00pm

B. Mullaney, T. Wiggin- Millis Public Schools

- The accomplishments and achievements of MPS were reviewed for the last year
 - MPS exceeded state averages on MCAS scores
 - Millis is #3 in the state for ELA
 - #8 in the state for school performance vs median home price
- Enrollment dropped over the past year, but projected enrollment is expected to increase 9% over the next 10 years
- The FY23 budget was presented for MPS
 - To meet the 4% growth rate, MPS will have to reduce the operating budget by \$361,975
 - Most of these cuts would be due to the loss of one-time state grant for services still needed by the students
- This budget proposal is tentative pending several union contracts up for renegotiation and waiting in final state grant amounts
- MPS requests a skid steer to remove snow and work on school grounds in other applications
- MPS requests a pickup truck for plow services and other uses on school grounds

M. Guzinski K. Bouret DeMarzo- Executive Office

M. Guzinski presented the budget for FY23 for the Executive Office and Select Board

- A reorganization of the staff will bring increased efficiency to the services offered
 - Add 18 hours a week to an existing position to work with boards and committees and give administrative support
 - Reduce another position from 35 hours a week to 31 hours a week
 - Create the position of Assistant Town Manager and eliminate the Operations Support Manager position
 - This would give greater flexibility to the town manager to delegate responsibilities, and allow the Assistant Town Manager to act as Human Resource Manager
 - Medway has HR Manager, Assistant Town Administrator, Communications Director, and Operations Manager. With this change Millis will have one person fulfilling these duties

Millis Select Board presented bylaw changes, articles 15-19 of the draft warrant

- Article 15 streamlines the responsibilities of the Town Administrator. Making this a bylaw change makes the duties easier to change in future town meetings by a simple majority
- Article 16 would change the Select Board composition from 3 members to 5 members.
- Article 17 is a repeat of a previous article and will be reworked/removed by the Select Board before the warrant is submitted
- Article 18 makes the Town Clerk position appointed rather than elected. The position has become a professional position with election laws densifying
- Article 19 was to rename the Finance Committee- Cathy MacInnes made a motion to dismiss this article, Joyce Boiardi seconded
 - Peter Berube- aye, Joyce Boiardi- aye, Jim Borgman-aye, John Loer- aye, Cathy MacInnes- aye, John Steadman- aye, Sara Reyes-aye, Peter Underhill- aye.
 - Motion carries unanimously

The Select Board adjourned their meeting

Finance Committee Peter Berube reviewed the articles in the draft warrant and each member was assigned articles to present at Town Meeting

Accepting the minutes from previous meeting was deferred

John Steadman moved to adjourn the Finance Committee; Joyce Boiardi seconded

- Peter Berube- aye, Joyce Boiardi- aye, Jim Borgman-aye, John Loer- aye, Cathy MacInnes- aye, John Steadman- aye, Sara Reyes-aye, Peter Underhill- aye.
 - Motion carries unanimously
 - Meeting is adjourned