

Shutesbury Finance Committee
Tuesday, April 16, 2024 Virtual (Zoom) Meeting

Members Present: Ajay Khashu - chair, George Arvanitis, Susie Mosher, Jim Hemingway, April Stein, and Jim Walton Absent member: Bob Groves

Attending: Town Administrator Becky Torres, Joe Salvador

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.

- A. Prepare for Four-Town Meeting – regional school budget
 - 1. Our position for an increase up to 6%
 - 2. Multi-year process to ramp up without more Ch70 support and ESSER funds gone
 - 3. We are utilizing some excess levy capacity; total levy increase will be 4.5%
 - 4. Not using cash reserves for operating budget
 - 5. Our local school budget increase is 5.77%
 - 6. Tell superintendent and other towns our reasoning ahead of the 4/20 meeting

- B. Annual Report Review
 - 1. A few corrections and additions; ready to post on town website and print

- C. Budget Information Session on Wednesday, April 24 with Paul Lyons, Moderator
 - 1. Ajay will do 10-minute summary of report
 - 2. We all will participate in answering questions

- D. Misc.
 - 1. Charter School funding in Chapter 70 formula needs future research and change

- E. Minutes of 4/3 approved as written, 4/9 approved as amended

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.