

Shutesbury Finance Committee
Tuesday, October 1, 2024 Virtual (Zoom) Meeting

Members Present: Ajay Khashu - chair, Bob Groves, April Stein, Susie Mosher, Jim Hemingway, Kathy Salvador and George Arvanitis Absent: None Attending: Town Administrator Becky Torres

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

- I. Approved the minutes of the 9/17/24 meeting, as amended

- II. Amherst Pelham Regional School Four Town Meeting follow-up:
 - A. Discussed the superintendents six separate budget scenarios and plan to consolidate the middle and high schools
 - B. We will ask the region to calculate the assessment schedules for the scenarios using the modified statutory method (five year rolling average)
 - C. Concern that consolidating the schools will face community opposition and not sure of impact on keeping or attracting students
 - D. We need to follow-up on who pays and how much do they pay for Charter schools and School Choice
 - E. The committee members will draft questions for the superintendent

- III. Reviewed the latest FY25 expense report dated 9/17/2024

- IV. Other Business
 - A. Liaisons for each department will reach out to the department heads regard the budget meeting schedules
 - B. FinCom article has been sent to Our Town
 - C. Two people were hired: The Assistant Administrative Secretary and the Land Use Clerk. Both will be interviewed in the next week
 - D. The Highway Superintendent resigned and a person who has been working at the department, has been appointed to this position. Their contract needs to be negotiated. We will delay the appears of the Highway superintendent's budget meeting

Our next meeting is October 15, 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32p.m.