

**Finance
Committee
MEETING
MINUTES**

March 11, 2021

Virtually

Paul Flaherty, Rick McGuire, Stephen Bern
Dr. Fitzpatrick, Jenna Rizzo, David Bartlett – BVT
Deb Teta,

The meeting was opened at 7:02 pm virtually.

Paul Flaherty introduced Superintendent Dr. Fitzpatrick to present BVT budget:

- BVT assessment to Town of Upton is a reduction to the Town of Upton by \$62K
- Upton's enrollment is down; noted it was down by more than 30 students from 4 years ago. Overall, there are 700 fewer students in the district at this time.
- Capital improvements without additional costs to taxpayers
- Grants from the State for Biotech lab
- Recent roof project was self-funded with MSBA funding
- Each member received a report from BVT
- Dr. Fitzpatrick commented he is happy to continue to serve the Town and happy
- Noted burden of expectation is 60% of assessment and this contributes to the minimum local contribution required of each Town.
- Noted \$626,000 in E&D once it is certified

BVT ended at 7:15

Updates from Paul Flaherty:

- CCBC will be making another presentation to BOS on March 16. It is recommended for FinCom should listen in to avoid another presentation to FinCom. Architect and OPM will also be present on Tuesday.
- Another meeting on March 30th but more info to come
- Since there is not a public hearing in person, there is a public comment period posted on the Town webpage in regards to the Community Center
- CPC hearing in April in regards to playground
- MURSD School Committee budget hearing will be on March 15th at Nipmuc HS – looking for additional 1.4 from Upton. Another meeting was held this past Friday to show scenarios of what the impact would be with lower assessments. Decision needs to be made on how to move forward with the School budget in conjunction with the Community Center.
- Committee will delay the discussion of warrant articles since some members are not present.
- Next meeting is Wednesday 3/17. Lyn Hagerty will present her citizen article justification
- Discussion regarding Town salaries and FinCom report, line-item changes and how the report should look
- Steve Bern and Kelly will discuss how to present significant changes in the budget to reduce the number of questions at Town Meeting
- Next meeting March 17, 2021

Adjourn at 8:26

41 Respectfully submitted,
42 Kelly A. McElreath