

**Finance
Committee
MEETING
MINUTES**

March 24, 2020

Virtual Meeting

Paul Flaherty, Rick McGuire, Nick Ensko, Shawn Craig, Jonathan Calianos

1 The meeting was opened at 7:00 pm.

2
3 Steve Matellian, chair of Board of Selectmen made the following statement:

4
5 *Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.
6 c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order concerning imposition on strict limitations on the number of
7 people that may gather in one place, meetings in the Town of Upton will be conducted via remote participation to
8 the greatest extent possible. We will strive to provide access to such meetings via a link to call in, or other similar
9 option. In the event we are unable to accommodate the same, despite best efforts, we will post recorded sessions
10 of the meeting as soon as possible following the same.*

11
12 It was noted any votes would be roll call votes.

13
14 Derek Brindisi, Town Manager, discussed the need for an override due to the request from the
15 two school districts. BVT requested an additional \$57,438 and MURSD requested an additional
16 \$1,471,697 for a total of \$1,530,135.

17
18 Paul Flaherty discussed the budget drivers of the MURSD: wages, health insurance
19 transportation and charter school.

20
21 Jonathan Calianos commented he agrees with reducing the request amount for each district by
22 the amount currently listed in the proposed budget (\$300k for MURSD; \$50k for BVT). He
23 noted an override should not be a surprise due to the history and MURSD informed us there
24 would be a request this year.

25
26 Shaw Craig stated the increase for BVT is due to MLC and an additional 2 students from Upton.

27
28 Derek Brindisi stated Mendon budget is tight and their override amount will be for the full
29 request. Jonathan Calianos commented it should be publicized if Upton approves override and
30 Mendon does not, we should commit to holding an underride.

31
32 It was calculated, \$100k override equals \$.08 on the tax rate.

33
34 Further discussion about adding the addition request from BVT to the override amount.
35 Jonathan Calianos commented it was fiscally responsible since there is no funds going to
36 stabilization this year. It was also noted the amount of \$1,229,135 minus the \$58k for BVT was
37 not going to affect whether the vote passes.

38
39 Paul Flaherty polled the Finance Committee and all were in agreement of the \$1,229,135 as the
40 override amount.

41
42 Selectmen discussed/passed a motion to put a question for the override on the Annual Town
43 Election ballot.

44 Jonathan motioned, Shawn Craig seconded, favorable recommendation for the ballot question.

45 Roll Call Vote: Paul Flaherty Aye
46 Jonathan Calianos Aye
47 Rick McGuire Aye
48 Shawn Craig Aye
49 Nick Ensko Aye

50

51 Finance Committee members participated in the remaining Selectmen meeting.

52

53 Motion to adjourn at 9:25 pm

54 Roll Call Vote: Paul Flaherty Aye
55 Jonathan Calianos Aye
56 Rick McGuire Aye
57 Shawn Craig Aye
58 Nick Ensko Aye

59

60 Next meeting to be determined

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64

65 Respectfully submitted,

66 Kelly A. McElreath