

State of Rhode Island

County of Washington

In Hopkinton on the 8th day of May 2018 A.D. the said special meeting was called to order by Town Council President Frank Landolfi at 6:30 P.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833.

PRESENT: Frank Landolfi, Thomas Buck, Barbara Capalbo, Sylvia Thompson; Town Solicitor Kevin McAllister; Town Manager William McGarry; Town Clerk Elizabeth Cook-Martin. Also present: Finance Director Brian Rosso. Absent was David Husband.

The meeting was called to order with a moment of silent meditation and a salute to the Flag.

DISCUSS/REVISE PROPOSED FY 2018/2019 BUDGET

Council President Landolfi asked Brian Rosso, Finance Director if he had any comments. Mr. Rosso stated that the only thing that changed since their initial meeting was that one of the employees in the Assessor's Office has gone from an insurance buy-back to a family plan health insurance as of July 1. This means that rather than there being a \$3,500 buy-back expense, it is now a \$22,000 expense and this can be either be changed now or absorbed. Councilor Capalbo indicated that the school would be returning \$53,000 after their last meeting and she assumed that money went into the General Fund. She questioned whether this was something they should just change in the Assessor Department by adding the \$22,000 under health insurance? Mr. Rosso indicated yes, they would make the change if they decided to do this in the budget, or they could just try to absorb it and use fund balance. Mr. Rosso indicated the rate is set the same as last year, suggesting it would be better than a two cent increase. Councilor Capalbo felt the increase in health insurance was going to happen next year as well. Mr. Rosso indicated that the only reason why he mentioned this is was because there are a couple of positions that are open and when hired, they don't know if those employees will be added as a single plan or family plan. They estimated those costs in as single though they could come in as family plans. This employee they

actually do know is being changed so he thought they may wish to adjust this now. Council President Landolfi supported taking this amount out of the fund balance and to keep the other new employees as single plans. Councilor Thompson asked Mr. Rosso if there would be no tax increase and he indicated in the affirmative. He stated that there was still a little bit of fund balance that they can use and still be within the cap. Council President Landolfi asked Town Manager McGarry if he had any comments but he did not.

Council President Landolfi stated that he had only one item to mention and that was the 1st Annual Hopkinton Police Golf Tournament which he will be playing in with Captain Carrier which is sponsored by the IBPO. They are asking for a tee sponsor which is \$100. Council President Landolfi read a letter which explained where the money is going. It stated that the International Brotherhood of Police Officers Chapter 498, several times throughout the year they donate their own money to support local community organizations, donate to families in need, sponsor youth sports teams and much more. On June 2, 2018 they will be holding their 1st Annual Golf Tournament at Pinehurst Golf Club in Richmond. Councilor Buck and Thompson indicated that they should take the \$100 out of the Council contingency fund to sponsor a tee. There was discussion that this will be coming out of the current year's budget so this would have to be placed on the May 21, 2018 agenda.

Councilor Thompson indicated that on the last page, page 50, they have the Hope Valley Ambulance Corps down for \$50,000 and Ashaway Ambulance and other ambulance services down for \$50,000 which gives the Town flexibility to move funds around between the ambulance services and it makes it clear to Ashaway Ambulance that if they finish providing the remaining requirements their funding will be restored in July and if they don't complete these requirements they won't get the money right away. Councilor Capalbo indicated that they should keep the money in the general fund for them; they do have quarterly reports so the Council can see how things are progressing. Council President Landolfi indicated that Eric Perrin had sent him a copy of the missing legislative grant check. Councilor Capalbo indicated that she had received an email stating that he was going to be asking two of the Board members to resign. Town Manager McGarry stated that

the chain of command structure was actually five people that were related so this was going to have to be reviewed. Councilor Capalbo asked if a first cousin would be considered related and Council President Landolfi answered yes. Councilor Capalbo then asked if a second cousin was considered related and Council President Landolfi indicated that he did not know. Councilor Thompson stated that the anti-nepotism policy defines what family members are.

The Council thanked Finance Director Brian Rosso and Town Manager William McGarry for their work. Council President Landolfi indicated that they had accomplished their spending initiatives and goals and kept the tax rate the same.

ADOPT FY 2018/2019 BUDGET FOR JUNE 12, 2018 BUDGET REFERENDUM BALLOT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR BUCK TO ADOPT THE FY 2018/2019 BUDGET FOR THE JUNE 12, 2018 BUDGET REFERENDUM BALLOT.

IN FAVOR: Landolfi, Buck, Capalbo, Thompson

OPPOSED: None

SO VOTED

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILOR THOMPSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR CAPALBO TO ADJOURN.

SO VOTED

Elizabeth J. Cook-Martin

Town Clerk

Marita D. Breault

Deputy Town Clerk