

## Town of Boxborough



### Finance Committee

FinCom Meeting Minutes for: February 11, 2013

Venue: Blanchard Library

#### Attendees:

##### FinCom

1. Karim Raad
2. Susan Bak
3. Neal Hesler
4. Jim Ham
5. Jeff Scott
6. Dilip Subramanyam

**Missing:** None

**Public Participation:** None

This was a joint meeting with the school committee to review the Blanchard budget.

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Karim – Jim moved /Jeff seconded.

Mr. Bates handed out a hard copy of the budget – level services, transitional year. Introductions of new members were made.

The current budget for 2014 reflects a 1.6% decrease in costs because it does not reflect any changes in salaries due to a new contract being negotiated. No cost of living allowances either. There is also a decrease in funding sources by 10.4%.

Reducing one Grade 5 teacher (one section), net 0.2 increase in aides. Waiting on a decision on regionalization to determine whether school choice kids can be accepted. Potential for 15-20 more choice students if the regionalization does not go through. Decision will be sometime in March.

\$17.6K decrease in technology. In reality, \$28K of technology covered by the town hall budget. Increase in SPED supervision due to increased hours spent by teaching staff. Teaching expenses net decrease is approximately \$150K offset by \$43K in steps, lanes and supermax. Budgeted supermax cost for 15 people is \$120K for 2014 (in the salary line). If the salaries increase by 1% (BTA only), this is equivalent to about \$34K. Potential for all staff brings this number to \$47K. This will more than offset the \$17K decrease currently shown in the budget. 2800 Psychology increase from 0.5 (half time) to 0.6. Sped tuition (9100) – decrease due to \$94K moved to teaching line (one teacher + aide) and 3 students brought back in house (which saved about \$150K from the previous year). Transportation decrease (Line 3300) due to decrease in SPED transportation costs. (CASE) Collaborative tuition increase (\$20K) due to increase from 2 years ago (contractual). Expected to drop next year? Proposal to bring 2 students back by increasing a section (now that a 5<sup>th</sup> grade class is available) to make space for next year (6 students expected from early intervention). This will save about \$128K offset by the cost of an extra teacher for a net savings of \$41K. Circuit breaker reimbursements expected to drop in 2014 so budget reflects \$103.6K of revenue from 2013.

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Technology – costs were restructured for 2014 (per Matt). About \$8K was moved from Line 2250 to Line 1450 + \$7.5K of new costs? Line 2451 increase is due to hardware, software and supplies cost increases. Net increase is \$6.6K (3.3%).

School committee to vote the budget on March 14. School capital plan might change due to new security rules.

Jan 26 meeting minutes – moved by Jim, seconded by Neal – approved unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM. Moved by Neal, seconded by Jim, approved unanimously. Next meetings – FinCom on Tuesday, Feb 19 and Monday Feb 25 at 7:00 PM at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Dilip Subramanyam  
FinCom Secretary  
February 11, 2013

New email for FinCom – [fincom@town.boxborough.ma.us](mailto:fincom@town.boxborough.ma.us). Please forward your email to Karim so he can add recipients.

Reserve Fund Transfers:

**Reserve Fund**

Item	Date	Cost	Left in Reserve	Reason
Initial reserve	9/10/12		\$185,000.00	Initial amount from article 5
Personnel Board – compensation study	1/26/13	\$9,000.00		Jim moved/Neal seconded – passed unanimously
Expansion of above compensation study to include union positions	1/26/13	\$3,000.00		Jim moved/Sue seconded – did not pass (4 Nay, 1 Yes)
DPW – Hazardous waste collection overage	1/26/13	\$4,882.00		Jim moved/Sue seconded – passed unanimously