

**Town of West Stockbridge
Finance Committee**

Meeting Notes: 03/23/23 7:00 PM – Public Hearing

In Attendance:

Fin Com Members - Dan Buehler, Bob Salerno, Steve Sautman, Ed Sporn
Other: Kathleen Keresey (SB), Andy Krouss (SB), Andy Potter (SB), Marie Ryan, Curt Wilson, Jamie Boyer, Marc Portier – Police Chief, Mike Retton – Sergeant

Bob Salerno opened the hearing to the audience for any questions, comments or public input about the draft FY24 Town Budget. Copies of the town budget were available for people to review.

- Andy Potter commented that the Finance Committee Public Hearing should be scheduled earlier to solicit public input before the budget is recommended to the Select Board. Andy stated that the Finance Committee By-Laws require 1 public hearing.
- Joe Roy commented that the MA State Legislature requires each Town Committee to review its operating rules for each year.
- Joe Roy asked if the draft budget figures in the hand-outs are accurate and final?
 - Bob Salerno answered saying that the proposed Select Board salary budget was reduced during the Select Board meeting earlier that evening.
 - Bob Salerno answered that the School budget number was just recently updated with a slight reduction.
 - Bob Salerno commented that if there are any further changes from this hearing those changes can be approved at the next Select Board meeting.
- Truc Nguyen asked if the Town Signage budget is still there?
 - Bob Salerno answered saying that the \$7,000 in the FY23 budget will roll-over since it was not spent this fiscal year. It is not included in the budget as the people were already taxed for it.
 - Ms. Nguyen asked if roll-over funds could be shown in the budget spreadsheet in order for people to know the funds are still there.

There were no further questions or comments.
The meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM.