­ Shelburne Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday April 19, 2023, 5:30 pm

Shelburne Fire Station

18 Little Mohawk Road, Shelburne

Minutes

Call to order: Called to order at 5:30 pm by Terri Mitchell. Those present include, Finance Committee members, Todd Dubreuil, Matt Popoli, Jay Readinger, and Community Member Jim Burnham. Absent: Deb Andrew.

1. Old Business:

* Monday, April 17, 2023, 5:30 pm – Meeting rescheduled to 4/19/23. No meetings can be held on a holiday.
* Joined Select Board via Zoom at 5:30 pm to review FY24 proposed Operating & Capital Budgets with the Select Board. Went down the warrant and commented and expressed concerns with several items on the warrant. Articles that required more discussion were:

Article 7, Line 310 5400 - Mohawk Trail Regional School District. Finance Committee was not in support of the budget presented to the town for many reasons. Among them rising expenses in light of declining enrollments.

Article 18 – Purchase and installation of a 27.6kWdc roof mounted solar array. The proposed payback on the capital purchase was questioned. After much discussion back and forth, the Finance Committee did not recommend the purchase. The Selectboard kept it on the warrant.

Articles 31, 32, and 33 - Amend the Mohawk Trail Regional School District Agreements. Finance Committee recommended rescinding these articles from the town warrant as they were last minute additions to the warrant by the MTRSD. They contain several pages of changes and we haven’t been provided any information showing the affect it will have on Shelburne’s Assessments going forward. There are a lot of changes to the Agreement to sort through and time does not allow a thorough review to be completed. Selectboard Member Margaret Payne proposed rescinding the Articles as there was too much information to understand in such a short time period. She was concerned about how a voter could possibly be asked vote on something we were still awaiting information on. Selectboard Member Andrew Baker wanted to keep it on the warrant and recommend that the voters vote it down at town meeting. Much discussion was had. In the end the Articles remain on the warrant.

* Returned to the Finance Committee meeting at 7:10 pm.
* Finance Committee continued discussion of Articles 31, 32, and 33 for a brief time.
* Reviewed items to be completed for town meeting.

2. New Business: None

3. Other Issues not anticipated 48 hours before the meeting: None

4. Next Meeting: Monday, April 24, 2023, @ 5:30 pm.

5. Motion to Adjourn by Jay Readinger, seconded by Matt Popoli. All in favor. Adjournment at 7:27 pm.