

Winthrop Finance Commission Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 5:00pm

Attendees: TOW: Tony Marino (TM), Sarah Johnson (SJ), Robbie Powers (RP), Jim Letterie (JL),
FC: Brent Farrell (BF), Karin Chavis (KC), William Gault (WG), Matt Gorzkowicz (MG),
Shannon Poulos (SP), Hannah Belcher (HB), John DaRos (JD), John Macero (JM)
Absent: Joe Hanlon

Meeting called to order at 5:17 pm by KC.

Rollcall vote completed by KC. All present except individuals noted above.

Focus of meeting will be receipt and review of initial budget with TM and scheduling of future meetings. TM provided overview of initial budget and addressed specific questions from attendees. Union contracts and health insurance expense increase (10%) has pressured budget.

Various discussion points amongst the members included:

- DPW, Clerical, Police and School union contracts up next year
- Solid waste contract has one year remaining
- Capital plan is not included in budget provided, review / compilation underway for next meeting
- Retirement vacation and sick time payout for current police chief to be ~\$80-\$90K, one remaining contract where that exists
- Discussion related to project grants and accessing funding sources. Public health department heavily dependent upon grant funding.
- School budget has not been provided to date. 2025 budget should be achievable, 2026 a significant concern without override as significant cuts would be required.
- Request made from JL related to debt description and limit to SJ

Council meetings tentatively scheduled for June 4th to review FC recommendations with council vote on June 11th.

MG motioned to adjourn; BF seconded. Approved by all present members.

Meeting adjourned at 6:08 pm.