

Minutes Holden Fiance Committee, March 2, 2023, Senior Center

Members Present: Paul Challenger, Don Graves, Al Berg, Jane Titcomb, Stephanie Adams, Donna Wallace, Marilynn Foley

Members Absent: Dave White, Chris Lucchesi

Also Present: Tom Browne, Principal Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School, Tammy Crockett, Business Manager, Russ Hall, Holden Fire Chief, @7:00, Sean Smith, Deputy Chief, Peter Lukes, Town Manager @7:15.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

Tom gave a brief overview of Monty Tech and its programs. In 2022 the school received a anonymous corporate donation of \$350,000.00. The school has also received a number of grants totaling \$3,766,907.00

Tammy went through the Preliminary Budget Plan for Holden. This includes the Chapter 70 Foundation budget, required minimum contribution, transportation operating assessment and capital assessment. The budget has increased by the required net school spending of its members, plus \$150,000. So they are running the District on essentially the legal minimum budget, so no cuts can be made. Holden's enrollment has increased by 23 new students, increasing Holden's assessment by \$293,464.00. Tom and Tammy answered questions from the Committee. The Committee thanked them for an excellent presentation.

Russ continued the discussion from Wednesday night concerning the purchase of the new ladder truck to replace the tower truck and replacing the Deputy Chief's vehicle. He had supplied the Committee the missing page on the Fire Capital Plan. Because of the difficulty of the delivery of vehicles ordered previously it is necessary to put in orders as soon as possible to lock in the price and be in the line of orders. Delivery can be as much as 2 years for fire trucks because of the difficulty of securing needed parts.

The Committee thanked Russ for returning a second night and for all the information.

Peter passed out a report on the ARPA funds the Town of Holden received. The report listed what had been spent, what is encumbered and what is assigned. The Recreation Department also received ARPA funds from the State for Before and After School programs.

The Committee discussed the library windows, WRSD Budget and security cameras for the schools.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilynn Foley, Clerk