

Holland Finance Board
27 Sturbridge Road, Holland, MA 01521
Holland Town Hall – Community Room
Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, February 2, 2022
Virtual and Physical Meeting of the Board and Guests

Meeting Attendance -

In person: Members – Andy Harhay, Chair. Ernie Fancy, Lori Joubert and John W Scott
In Person: Guests – Selectman Clelland Johnson, Town Administrator Stacy Stout

Open Meeting – Called to order at 6:30 pm by the Chair.

1. Board of Health - The BOH was originally scheduled for this meeting, but was moved to the 2/16/22 meeting, when the Planning Board will also be on the agenda. When the schedule was developed, it was not realized that Kyle Merolla was now the chairperson of both boards; Andy modified the schedule so that Kyle could discuss the requests of both boards at the same meeting.

2. Budget Spreadsheet - For the purpose of continuing development of the budget spreadsheet, The Chair suggested using a 3.0% COLA in the current draft and voting on the recommended COLA later in the process. There were no objections to using that approach.

2. James Gagne, Fire Chief, presented the FY23 Budget request for the Fire Department -
FY2022 allocation: \$102,406.
FY2023 requested: \$125,012.
Increase of \$22,606 or 22%.

The line item responsible for the significant percentage increase was *Fire Dept. Expenses*. The Fire Chief indicated that his vendors/suppliers had warned that they expect the cost of standard items to increase 28 to 30% over the coming year.

The Chief indicated that the 1998 KME engine/pumper fire truck is out of commission because it failed the NFPA pump test and, at a minimum, requires the primer to be replaced. The total scope and cost of repairs is currently being evaluated. The Chief indicated that the repair of this 25-year-old vehicle could be very expensive and time consuming. Mr. Gagne recommends replacing the truck and will develop a warrant article for ATM. Although the competitive bidding process has not yet been initiated, a KME estimate indicates that a new truck will cost about \$715,000 and associated equipment another \$100,000.

3. Next Meeting.
February 9, 2022

4. Adjournment. Ernie Fancy made a motion to adjourn, seconded by John Scott. The Chair then adjourned the meeting at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
John W Scott.