

# Town of Hubbardston

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## Finance Committee – Meeting Minutes Joint Meeting with Board of Selectmen and QRSD School Committee Members July 22, 2019

Meeting called to order: 6:30 PM in the Slade Building

Members present: Shannon Erb, Joshua Lerner, Susan Rayne, and Chuck Reed

Other Attendees: Ed Blanchard; Dan Galante, Pat Girouard, Richard Haddad, Jeffrey Williams, and Kris Pareago (Selectboard); Ryan McLane, Town Administrator; Debra Chamberlain, William Hansen, and Mark Wigler (QRSD School Committee)

- 1) *FY20 budget update and discussion in anticipation of August 2019 Special Town Meeting.* The members and attendees discussed the effect of three of the five member towns of the Quabbin Regional School District rejecting the proposed FY2020 QRSD budget. Mr. Galante noted that at the current assessment the Town was forecasting a FY2020 budget deficit of over \$43,000; Mr. Williams requested that the Committee and the Town Administrator identify the proposed cuts and other proposed actions by which that deficit would be eliminated. Mr. Wigler noted in response that some members of the School Committee might think the current QRSD budget to be inadequate. Ms. Chamberlain initiated a discussion about the presentation given by Ms. Rayne about the QRSD budget at the June 2019 Town meeting. No action or resolution was proposed or taken.
- 2) *Discussion regarding practice and procedure in calculating member towns' QRSD assessments.* Mr. McLane stated that the absence of reliable budget forecasts from QRSD made it difficult, if not impossible, to budget in accordance with best practices. Ms. Chamberlain noted that the statutory formula utilized by the QRSD Regional Agreement contributed to the unpredictability of assessments. Mr. Lerner voiced the concern of the Committee that stabilization was needed to enable the Town to meet its obligations. No action or resolution was proposed or taken.
- 3) *Adjournment.* Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn.

Adjourned at 7:46 P.M.

Minutes submitted by: Susan Rayne, Clerk *Pro Tem*

Minutes approved by: Susan Rayne, Chair

  
Susan Rayne

Date: 10/15/19