



TOWN OF MENDON

Finance Committee

fincomm@mendonma.gov

MEETING MINUTES

Michael Krager, Chairman
Nicholas Ciantra, Vice Chairman
Billy Haddad, Clerk
Mike Ammendolia
Jesse Curll
John Hodgens
Ron Zammuto

Meeting Date: Monday, March 10, 2025
Time Called to Order: 6:35 PM
Time Adjourned: 8:53 PM
Location: Town Hall - Main Meeting Room
Meeting Chair: Michael Krager
Recorder: Billy Haddad

Member:	Present¹	Remote²	Member	Present	Remote
Michael Krager	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	John Hodgens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nicholas Ciantra	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jesse Curll	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mike Ammendolia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Billy Haddad	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ron Zammuto	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Topic Name:	Finance Committee Attended the Select Board Meeting
Summary:	<p><u>Library Budget Presentation</u></p> <p>The Library Director, Andrew Jenrich, presented a budget focused on expanding library services with an emphasis on staffing adjustments and operational hour improvements. The proposal included a modest staffing increase, budget reallocation, and plans for facility upgrades and program enhancements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposal to add four additional part-time technician hours (aiming for an eventual eight-hour week position).• Adjustments noted for reallocating funds (e.g., moving money from utilities to supplies and programming).• Discussion included improved circulation, increased program participation, and upcoming facility projects like repaving parking lot.• Incorporates a 3% cost-of-living adjustment on salaries. <p><u>Assessors</u></p> <p>A discussion was held about adopting a new GIS-based “near map” tool to support the Board of Assessors and related departments. The tool offers</p>

¹ If “Present” contains an “x” that person was physically present.

² If “Remote” contains an “x” that person participated remotely according to 940 CMR 29.10(5) a through e as approved by the Meeting Chair.

	<p>high-resolution imagery and measurement capabilities that would improve property inspections and revenue recovery processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tool provides oblique, panoramic, and vertical imagery for detailed property measurements. • Annual licensing costs are estimated at around \$8,300, with expected price increases. • The potential funding method may include incorporating it into the operating budget or pursuing a special town meeting appropriation. • Benefits include enhanced productivity through reduced need for in-field inspections. <p>Parks Department</p> <p>The Parks & Recreation departments presented proposals focusing on both budget adjustments and organizational improvements. A significant debate centered on the creation of a new full-time supervisory role that would combine oversight of park grounds and facilities management, aiming to relieve current department heads of manual oversight tasks and support long-term strategic planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for increased funding for staffing, minor wage increases, and maintenance budget adjustments. • Extensive discussion on creating a new supervisory position with combined responsibilities for park operations and facilities management. • Consideration of union implications, job descriptions, and the need for clear role definitions. <p>Water and Highway Budget Highlights</p> <p>The Water Department update covered capital improvements such as road paving and anticipated additional Chapter 90 funding, while the Highway Department discussed road projects and rising equipment maintenance costs. Technology needs and field connectivity for highway operations were also addressed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water: Focused on road improvements, including multiple major roads, and potential increases in funding from additional legislative allotments. • Highway: Emphasis on projects like Harford Avenue paving and the reallocation of funds to support rising equipment repair costs (for example, diesel exhaust system repairs). • Debate over providing standardized devices (tablets/laptops) versus using personal phones with hotspot capabilities to support field operations. • Highlighted the importance of balancing immediate project costs with long-term maintenance needs
Decisions Made:	None
Actions to be Taken:	Attend future budget meetings

Related Documents:

FY26 Library Budget Presentation
FY 26 Budget Doc (Highway)