­  Shelburne Finance Committee

Monday, March 24, 2025, 5:30 pm

Shelburne Fire Station

18 Little Mohawk Road

**Meeting Called to order** at 5:30 pm by Todd Dubreuil. Those present include Terri Mitchell and Jim Burnham. Absent: Matt Popoli and Jay Readinger. Guest: Bob Miller, FCTS Representative.

**Appointments:**

* 6:00 pm – MTRSD Budget Presentation
* 6:30 pm – Jeff Johnson – Highway Budget Presentation
* 7:00 pm – Greg Bardwell – Police Chief Budget Presentation
* 7:30 pm – FCTS Budget Presentation

1. **Old Business:**  None

2. **New Business:**

Joined the SB for Budget Presentations:

**6:00 pm – MTRSD Budget Presentation** – MTRSD budget presented by Superintendent Sheryl Stanton, Shelburne School Committee Rep. Jason Cusimano, and Business Manager Bill Lataille. The FY’26 MTRSD All Funds Budget is $27,222,601. This represents an increase of $1,050,676 over FY’25. The use of grants and revolving funds reduce the overall budget to $22,213,288 representing the Local Budget. The Local budget is reduced by revenues, bringing the total operating assessment to $14,391,898, a 4.1% increase over FY’25. Shelburne’s portion of the Operating Assessment and the Capital Assessment amounts to $3,017,344. This represents a 2.11% increase over FY’25.

**6:30 pm – Jeff Johnston – Highway Budget Presentation** - Highway Superintendent Jeff Johnston presented the Highway Maintenance Budget. It represented an increase of $102,900 over FY’25, basically double. The Selectboard and Finance Committee had several questions for Jeff. He is also requesting capital purchases for a 2025 Western Star dump truck with body/spreader, $326,000, a 2025 CD 515 international dump truck with body, $108,000, and replacement of a snowplow, $7,500.

**7:00 pm – Chief Greg Bardwell – Police Budget Presentation** - Chief Greg Bardwell presented the Shared Police Budget with Buckland. Shelburne’s percentage of the budget is approximately 50% of the total. The budget is higher than FY’25 mainly due to pay increases resulting from a Wage and Classification Study that was done. An energy audit on the Municipal Building occupied by the Police Department will shortly be underway in hopes of reducing electric costs. Capital requests for a new cruiser and new bullet proof vests, the cost to be shared with Buckland, were also requested.

**7:30 pm – Franklin County Tech. School Budget Presentation** – Russ Kaubris, Business Manager, presented the FCTS budget. FY’26 Town Assessments are $7,380,955. Shelburne’s Assessment for FY’26 is $196,487, up approximately $22,000 over FY’25. Shelburne is assessed $17,862 per student. The Tech School is currently doing a feasibility study to help decide whether to renovate or replace the school. They hope to have the results and rough estimates in 4 to 6 months. Bob Miller, Shelburne’s FCTS representative join the meeting to answer any questions that we had. He explained what the school was doing to make sure that students are assessed too the correct towns. The Shelburne Falls address always confuses students when giving their address as to which town the student actually lived in, Buckland or Shelburne.

3. **Other Issues not anticipated 48 hours before the meeting**: None

4. **Next Meeting:** Monday, April 7, 2025, @ 5:30 pm at the Fire Station.

5. **Adjournment**: Motion to adjourn by Jim Burnham, seconded by Terri Mitchell. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Mitchell,

Finance Committee