

**FY22 Joint Board of Selectmen and Financial Advisory Committee**  
**Budget Hearing**  
**January 19, 2021**  
**3:00 pm**

A joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Financial Advisory Committee was held on the above date via Zoom Teleconference. Members present were: Arthur Smadbeck, Chairman; Margaret E. Serpa, Donna Lowell-Bettencourt, Co-Chair; Les Baynes, James Carter, Robert Coad, Nedine Cunningham, Steve Jordan, and Paul Pertile. Also present was the Town Administrator James Hagerty.

At 3:00 pm Mr. Smadbeck called the Selectmen to order; then Mr. Pertile called the Financial Advisory Committee to order.

Mr. Smadbeck assumed the Chair for the joint meeting.

The first item of business was the budget analysis for the Dukes County Sheriff's Department.

The proposed warrant article was for the Regional Emergency Communication & Radio System totaling \$55,831.

Mr. Hagerty noted that this article was determined by the Tech Advisory Committee and the Finance Advisory Committee.

Then next item of business was the budget analysis for the Fire Department. Fire Chief Alex Schaeffer presented the budget.

The budget included a 10% increase due to increased job descriptions, responsibilities, and hours. There are increased costs in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Insurance expenses are also included to prevent an operating deficit due to a previous underfunding.

Mr Baynes sought clarification regarding employee retainment. Chief Schaeffer noted that the pandemic has made recruitment more difficult, while retainment is less affected. The department has maintained their training opportunities; and their scheduling system has been positive.

The next item of business was the budget analysis for the Ambulance Department.

There is a 4% increase due to job descriptions and step increases.

Mr. Hagerty explained the logistics of EMT/Paramedic/Firefighter position.

Chief Schaeffer noted that it is the most credentialed and qualified employees that are interested in the combined position.

The next item of business was the budget analysis for Civil Defense.

There is a \$5,000 increase in the budget to reflect the generator maintenance and improvements to phone lines and wireless internet the town will receive from the department.

The proposed warrant articles included:

- Wildland Tanker to better serve more residents in less accessible areas — \$150,000
- Ambulance — \$310,000
- Defibrillators — \$70,000
- Job descriptions

The next item of business was the budget analysis for the Wastewater Department.

There is no budgetary increase.

The proposed warrant articles included:

- Equipment and Collection System Maintenance — \$74,000
- F-250 Truck — \$37,000
- Rapid Infiltration Basin System — \$240,000
- Schwing Pump — \$230,000

Mr. Hagerty noted the importance of the maintenance, and how larger projects are imminent due to consistent need.

The next item of business was the budget analysis for the Dukes County Regional Housing Authority. David Vigneault presented the budget.

The 50/50 formula resulted in a determined contribution of \$121,900.

Ms. Serpa asked how many situations in Edgartown are supported by the DCRHA, to which Mr. Vigneault responded 16.

At 3:55 pm, Ms. Serpa made a motion to adjourn the Selectmen. Mr. Smadbeck seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Mr. Baynes made a motion to adjourn the Financial Advisory Committee. Mr. Jordan seconded the motion. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned.