

MART Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 10:27 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: (constituting a quorum)

Mayor Stephen DiNatale	Fitchburg
Ken Troup	Bolton
Richard Maki	Sterling
Jan Robbins	Ashburnham

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Selectperson Heather Billings	Westminster
Robert Pontbriand	Ayer

STAFF PRESENT:

Mohammed Khan, Bruno Fisher, James Sluss, Jessica Lashua, George Kahale, Phil Rocca and Keary Connors

- Approval of Finance Committee Meeting Minutes, January 10, 2020
RESOLUTION-Mayor Stephen DiNatale of Fitchburg moved to approve the minutes from January 10, 2020. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- FY2020 Financial Update
James Sluss informed the Committee:
 - MART will end the year with a balanced budget. MART will not have a deficit.
 - MART had already put in place the program to reduce the potential deficit prior to the Covid-19 impact.
 - MART has been able to maintain services, but has laid off the brokerage temporary employees and laid off the MTS drivers that perform cancelled MTS program based services.
 - All permanent employees remain with MART either at home or spread out amongst five facilities to reduce exposure to the Covid-19 virus.
 - MART has received \$10.3 million from the Federal Government. The State would like us only to spend Federal money and not State money.
 - The state could look to reduce next year's state funding, due to poor tax receipts and by MART receiving the Cares \$10.3 Million dollars.

Mohammed Khan let the Committee know that MBTA has received State and Federal money to continue to operate.

- FY21 Budget for Discussion / Recommendation to Advisory Board
James went over the FY2021 budget with the Committee.
The budget for FY21 assumed a flat state assistance funding, putting MART in a more conservative position.

The state could look to reduce next year's state funding, due to poor tax receipts and by MART receiving the CARES \$10.3 Million dollars.

The CARES money would cover not only FY20 short falls but also help to cover short falls in revenue and potential higher costs in FY21 and extending into FY22. At this point we cannot adequately determine the full impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic, but we are making all preparations necessary.

RESOLUTION- Mayor Stephen DiNatale of Fitchburg moved to recommend the revised FY2020 budget as presented by the Administrator, to the MART Advisory Board. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- Other Business
- Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 10:52 a.m.