

MART Finance Committee Meeting Minutes September 24, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 10:32 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: (constituting a quorum)

Mayor Stephen DiNatale	Fitchburg
Selectman Austin Cyganiewicz	Winchendon
Selectperson Heather Billings	Westminster
Ken Troup	Bolton

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Keith Bergman	Littleton
Shaun Suhoski	Athol

GUESTS PRESENT:

Bruce D. Norling, CPA, P.C.
Sue Chalifoux, Leominster City Council Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Mohammed Khan, Bruno Fisher, James Sluss, Jessica Lashua, Benilda Martinez, George Kahale and Keary Connors

- Approval of Minutes – March 20, 2018
Ken Troup from Bolton moved to approve the minutes from March 20, 2018. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- Auditors Report FY2018
James informed the Board that because of increased legal expense MART had to find cost savings in house. In the end MART ended the year with a \$20,000 surplus. The surplus will go into next year as cash flow. Since MART didn't have a deficit it can now receive a portion of \$4 million from The State.

Bruce Norling informed the Board the Audit went extremely well and there were no findings. No adjustments were needed or made.

Ken Troup from Bolton moved to accept and present the Auditor's Report and Audit to the MART Advisory Board. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- FY2019 Financial Update
 - Proposal to Review and Adjust Transit Services
Mohammed informed the Board that we are receiving the same amount of funding from the State as received the last few years. There is a \$4 million fund which MART can have a portion of later in the year.

With limited funding MART will look to reduce and restructure some services. There is also no longer an earmark for Athol/Orange services.

- Athol service reduction by 50%, going from 1 to 2 routes
- Reduce Fitchburg/Leominster/Gardner last loop
- Devens and Littleton will be staying close to the same

Sue Chalifoux asked how MART can access the \$4 million.

Bruno stated that it will be an MOU with massDOT. All RTA's eligible to receive a portion of the \$4 million will have to submit up to 2 projects for funding and potential award.

An RTA Task Force was also formed. They will look at service standards and funding. They will create standardized report for the RTA's and performance matrix. They will also recommend to the Legislatures appropriate levels of funding. It is a 19 member task force with 3 RTA Administrators on it.

- Open Items

Bruno informed the Board that we are waiting on a resolution of the TLC lawsuit and it should be in by the end of October.

FY2019 is going well, MART will have budget revision after the first of the year.

- Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.