

**Advisory Committee Public Safety Budget Subcommittee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**1/14/2019**

In attendance: Subcommittee Members Eric Haskell (Chair), Eryn Kelley, and Davalene Cooper.

Others in attendance: Steve Murphy (Fire Chief), Louis LaChance (Deputy Fire Chief), and William Powers (Deputy Fire Chief).

Chair Haskell called the meeting to order at 6:23 p.m.

The Fire Department budget was discussed in detail. Salaries are budgeted based on the new contract with the union.

There was discussion of the amount budgeted for overtime pay. If a fireman is injured, or sick, or out on vacation, other firemen must take on that shift, resulting in overtime. The goal is to have the correct number of staff positions, which probably requires 2 flex positions. Hingham has been understaffed due to 8 vacancies. However, this situation should improve over the next year as it appears there will be at least 6 new hires to fill vacant positions.

There is one request for new funding. This is a one-time request of \$32,000 to remove old Fire Alarm equipment and wires. This requires overtime pay for the removal, and this would complete the project. This system is no longer used, and removing the wires and equipment is a time-consuming process.

The subcommittee adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Davalene Cooper