

*Town of Otis*  
**Select Board/ Finance Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Select Board Office**

**1 North Main Road, Otis, MA 01253**

**Thursday, Apr 16, 2026, at 10:30 AM**

This meeting will be held in person at the location provided on this notice. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

**Attendance:** Gary Thomas-Chair, Larry Southard, Terry Gould, Brandi Page, Sue Brofman and Heather Gray.

**Call to Order:** 10:33 AM

**Minutes:** The Board reviewed the joint budget minutes from 2/24/2026, 3/06/2026, 3/10/2026, 3/24/2026 and 3/27/2026. Gary made a motion to approve as written. Larry seconded and the motion passed, vote 3-0.

**Budget Discussion:** Brandi had sent the master spreadsheet prior with areas highlighted for review. The goal was to reduce the operating budget by about 70,000 to drop the overall increase by an additional percentage. The employee COLA was approved at 4%. Further review was successful and everyone agreed on a final operating budget of \$7,111,341.74. This reflects a 5.4% increase over last year's operating budget. Wastewater was approved at \$102,750.00 (10%) and EMS at \$494,700.00 (7.7%). The Board then reviewed the capital items. It was agreed to wait on the sewer extension until we have final design and confirmation that improvements to one or more lots is happening. This may line up with next year or require a special town meeting. The Board also decided to begin funding the OPEB liability an alternate way and remove it from the free cash scenario. Free Cash appropriations were approved totaling \$919,337.56. Brandi will finalize all the budget documents as well as the town meeting warrant.

**Adjournment:** 12:10 AM