



# Town of Orleans

## Finance Committee

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## Memorandum

**To:** John Kelly, Town Administrator

**CC:** Board of Selectmen

**Date:** October 10, 2019

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In her email message to you last week, on October 3, Finance Committee Chair Lynn Bruneau noted that over the past 13 months, the Committee has organized a number of meetings with department managers and their staff - hosted by the Finance Committee - which have enabled the Committee to learn first-hand what the cost drivers and challenges are for these departments - and to get a better understanding of department operations. Committee guests have included leadership from the Orleans Fire Department, Cape Tech High School, the Police Department, the Nauset Regional School District, Snow Library, and the Orleans Water Department. For the schools, a real eye-opener was learning the impact of special needs students - who might transfer into the district during a school year - unbudgeted, but perhaps needing fulltime one-on-one support. For all groups, it has been helpful to understand the impact of regulatory requirements - whether related to training/certification of resources or the availability of funding.

The Committee would like to continue these sessions - which of course are open to the public, and are broadcast live on Channel 18 and taped for posting on the Town's website for subsequent viewing. We understand from your email message of October 4 to Ms. Bruneau that, "outside of the annual budget/warrant review cycle (January through May)", you are asking the Committee to "follow the Charter and address any requests to have town employees (other than Police, Fire and Schools) attend meetings and/or make presentations to the Committee to (your) office in advance for approval."

Ms. Bruneau has already forwarded to you copies of the Committee's original email invitations to several department managers. However, to address your request of October 4 as outlined above, the Committee would like your approval for the following department manager/resource

meetings/presentations with the Finance Committee:

- DPW Director Tom Daley and/or Natural Resources Manager Nate Sears - Town Landings and Town Beaches (recognizing that this might take two sessions)
- Building & Facilities Manager Ron Collins - Building & Facilities
- Council on Aging Director Judi Wilson - Council on Aging

Thank you for your continued support of the Committee. Please call with any questions.

On behalf of the Finance Committee,

Lynn Bruneau / Finance Committee Chair

Cc: Finance Committee