

Ashburnham Advisory Board Meeting
October 11, 2011
Ashburnham Public Safety Building
AFD Meeting Room

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Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present:

Bill Johnson, Chairman Belden DiVito Meredith Fagan
Joseph Oliveria Gail Dumont Duncan Phyfe

Also present: Doug Briggs, Town Administrator Larry Barrett, Chief - APD

Review Warrant Articles for Fall Special Town Meeting:

Art.1: Raise and appropriate from water revenue funds, \$14,916.67, to pay interest on temporary loan for Water Tank Project. (Didn't estimate enough) Motion to recommend made by B. DiVito, seconded by D. Phyfe. Unanimous

Art.2: Transfer \$3,000 from free cash funds to update Assessors maps. Analyze homes, update town maps. Grant of \$28,000 from state. Maintain info for digitizing in the future. (Errors made in '08, '09, '10) Motion to recommend made by B. DiVito, seconded by D. Phyfe. Unanimous

Art.3: Transfer \$15,321.50 from free cash to purchase equipment for Police Dept. Chief Barrett gave us a quick overview and explanation of the request. Five rifles with newer equipment and technology will replace old rifles. Not cost effective to adapt older ones. Trade in value approx. half the cost of new. One glock to maintain replacement due to age and have back up on hand. Replace fourteen Bullet Resistant Vests that are due for replacement in early 2012 due to Federal life recommendations and warranty. Misc. equipment; holsters, pouches, pepper spray, etc. (Due to budget cuts in the department) Motion to recommend made by B. DiVito, seconded by J. Oliveria. Unanimous

Art.4: Transfer \$40,000 from free cash for Veterans Benefits for remainder of FY12. Have more veterans returning that need monthly and healthcare benefits. Town is reimbursed 75% but a year behind. (Not enough in fund...unanticipated) Motion to recommend made by J. Oliveria, seconded by D. Phyfe. Unanimous

Art.5: Transfer \$125,000 from free cash for reconstruction of town roads. Possibility of the state paving from Stowell Rd. to Main St. if our DPW does culvert work. (Supplement Chap. 90) Motion to recommend made by M. Fagan, seconded by B. DiVito. Unanimous

Art.6: Transfer \$36,999.50 from free cash to Capital Improvement Fund. To add to Capital projects, maintenance, etc. (After our meeting a math error was brought to our attention. The amount to transfer will be \$33,000.50 not \$36,999.50.) Motion to recommend made by G. Dumont, seconded by J. Oliveria. Unanimous

Art.7: Transfer funds from free cash to Stabilization Fund. (A motion will be made at Town Meeting to passover due to balance of free cash being put in Capital Improvement Fund.)

Art.8: Grant a 20 year maintenance easement to Investar Renewable Energy LLC. Investar to install solar panels to sell energy to AMLP at one cent per kilowatt hour for ten years and five cents for the next ten years. \$75,000 upfront costs to AMLP. Investar will pay \$50,000 to the Town of Ashburnham and after costs incurred by the town, will end up with approx. \$30,000 in General Fund. The company will install solar panels and set up educational seminars at the new Scout and Community Center. This easement over town property will enable Investar to reach and maintain their solar field. Motion to recommend made by M. Fagan, seconded by D. Phyfe. Unanimous

Art.9: Five year Contract for operation of Joint Water Filtration Plant. The contract for the operation and maintenance of the Joint Water Filtration Plant on Lake Road that was serviced by Veolia Water North America, expired in August but was temporarily extended until a new contract could be reached. Veolia was not the low bidder, was \$200,000 more than the last contract term. Veolia reduced bid \$100,000 making the new contract for the next five years \$100,000 over the last five year contract. The plant provides water to Ashburnham and Winchendon. Motion to recommend made by G Dumont, seconded by J. Oliveria. Unanimous

Discussion on the new growth figure of \$19,922. Extremely low!

Supplemental Budget:

12 ½% - ice storm

Additional lottery monies - \$48,000

Monies reimbursed for flood damage

Discussion on the J.R. Briggs Building Project... progress/problems/budget.

Next Meeting:

October 19th – 6:00 p.m. Oakmont Auditorium (before STM)

Motion to adjourn made by G. Dumont, seconded by J. Oliveria. Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

~Gail Dumont