



TOWN OF DARTMOUTH MASSACHUSETTS

Finance Committee
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Peter Friedman, Chairman
Greg Lynam, Vice-Chairman
Stephen Mitchell, Clerk

Pursuant to a call to order and notice duly given in the manner required by law and the By-laws of the Town of Dartmouth, a meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Thursday, September 17th, 2009 at 6:30P.M. at the Dartmouth Town Hall, Room 315.

Minutes: 9/7/09

Members Present: Greg Lynam, Peter Friedman, Mary Louise Nunes, Tenney Lantz, Shannon Jenkins, Jason Wentworth, Patrick Roth, David Ferreira

Members Absent: Stephen Mitchell

6:30PM Pledge of Allegiance

6:31PM – Reserve Fund Transfers

- Wind Turbine RFT: withdrawn
- COA RFT for \$8,300: time sensitive
 - needs to have gas run before heating season starts
 - debate over whether this is appropriate for funding from reserve fund
 - Roth moves, Jenkins seconds – motion approved 6-1-0 (Lynam opposed)
 - Lynam opposed on the grounds that this is an improper use of the reserve fund
 - VOTE: 6-1-0 (Lynam opposed)

6:36PM Alternative Energy Committee

- Friedman expressed concern that this is not viable without net metering
- Roger, representing AEC, agreed – hearing in Boston to discuss net metering on October 14th and how it will work; some decision will come around the first week of December
- Friedman: have we looked into contingency for Wind Turbines – funding contingent on net metering
- Ed: decision will be made about whether to withdraw the motion by September 28th
- Will bring AEC back if this provision is to move forward.

6:47PM CIP (including school department CIP)

- Discussion of guidelines for school capital improvements as understanding among committees. School Capital improvement projects shall meet the following guidelines:
 - The proposed capital improvement item should be for \$10,000 or more.
 - “Capital” shall be defined as facility, equipment and/or a major instructional/educational program improvement.
 - It should have a useful life of three (3) years or more.
 - If bonded, it should have a useful life of five (5) years or more in accordance with MGL RSA 44.
 - Capital improvement items of less than \$10,000 may be combined (such as technology).
- Lynam moves approval, Lantz seconds
- Roth: language is not specific enough, wants “major instruction/educational program improvement” removed

- VOTE: 6-1-1 (Roth opposes, Ferreira abstains)
- Motor Vehicle Sticker Inspection Machine – new entry, can be used to inspect town vehicles, thus lead to substantial savings (~\$9 per sticker, with approximately 200 town vehicles = ~\$1800/year); this is upgradable as standards and cars change. Need more information before we make decision.
- Oil Tank Replacement: this represents half of the cost to replace – other half of cost will be funded by grant.
- Fire Alarm system at library: required by Jan 1st or will not pass inspection, will get more specific information
- Library Parking Lot:
 - Lantz: why does parking lot need to be repaved?
 - Ed: Cost is increasing, needs to be done
 - Could crack seal and pave it
- Handicap Access:
 - Phil Lenz raised point that this did not go through the committee
 - Jenkins notes that this should go through this committee before we approve this
- School Ceiling and Lighting replacement
 - will lead to greater energy efficiency
 - Lynam: NStar reimbursement?
 - School will put in for it
- Boilers:
 - Actual cost is 500,000
 - Moved to FY11
- Technology
 - Should be 200K
 - Would replace all K-4 computers older than 2006
 - Would replace DMS computer lab – more than 6 years old
- Floor and Tile Replacement
 - This is part of full day K planning
 - Need to have two sites for K, will need to remove flooring at one site
 - For Cushman (for K) and all other elementary schools
 - Due to asbestos flooring
- Town Hall Office
 - Increased by 100K
 - Mainly focused on Old Town Hall
 - Could upgrade exterior – replace doors and windows
- Wellness Center
 - Increased from 125K to 175K
 - 125K for finishing site work for opening
 - For additional 52K can cut in new road into DeMello school so can change traffic patterns
- Town Hall Air Conditioner
 - Evaluation: outdoor aid condenser needs to be replaced

7:52PM Schools

- Fees
 - 57,000 half of fees: one year rebate
 - Ed will move that this will come out of tax levy
 - Will move through supplemental schedule a
- Full Day K/Full Day K CIP

8:20 PM Personnel Board

- Nobody actually covered, but these serve as basis for negotiation in contracts
- Sense of committee that personnel benefits should be reviewed and a bylaw change should be put forwards

8:40 PM Housekeeping Articles

- Discussion of various articles on town warrant
- Will return to Article R – Budget Supplements

9:PM Motion to Adjourn by Jenkins, Lantz seconds

VOTE: 8-0-0