

Town of Fairhaven

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting for < November 15, 2012 > at the BPW Building, Arsene St., Fairhaven, MA

Members in attendance: Chairman- John Roderiques, Kim Hyland, Kathi Carter, Scott Fernandes, Sid Martin, Therese Szala, Dawn Devlin, Colin Veitch, Padraic Elliot, Bob Furtado, Kevin Costa. At-Large position remains vacant. Town of Fairhaven: Jeff Osuch in attendance for entire meeting. (Possibly lurking somewhere in the shadows there was an insect also in attendance with a plan.)

Meeting was covered by local TV with no members of the written press present.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Note that a break was taken at 8:47 called for by the chairman and the meeting resumed at 8:54.

Motion was made by Kim to accept the meeting minutes from November 8, 2012. Second by Scott. Vote: Unanimous

After introduction to the newest article 14 by EMA for COTs the chairman opened discussion with representatives from the EMA. At 7:02 pm Scott left the room. Discussion regarding the cots that we owned and how they disappeared ensued. No one knows how they were delivered to auction. A concern was expressed about how they would be taken care of in the future. Cost for the cots are 3 for \$141. The new cots would be stored at the office on Sconticut Neck. During Hurricane Bob no one stayed overnight. Discussion ensued regarding how this was bad timing for such an article and that partial funding of the solution could be all they may ever receive. It was recommended that the article be resubmitted at next year's Town Meeting with a plan. The consensus of the committee was that this was not good financial timing for such an article and the article was incomplete. Scott returned at 7:37 pm.

Mr. Furtado arrived with staff to discuss his articles. Discussion was held regarding the articles.

Article 1:

The discussion mainly took place around reason for the reserve fund. The approach to moving the \$6K could make sense if we eliminated the reserve fund and had a free for all approach where everyone takes care of themselves.

2a. A motion was made to Indefinitely Postpone by Scott, 2nd by Kim. Vote: Unanimous

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Article 2 and 3:

There was discussion around operator certifications for \$25 (Terry also noted a typo of “June 30, 2103 in the contract). The chairman noted that this contract is in line with others we have endorsed as a committee.

Article 2 1.a Scott made a motion to approve \$6,864 from Sewer Retained Earnings.
Kim 2nd Vote: Unanimous

Article 3 1.a Scott made a motion to approve \$14,915 from Sewer Retained Earnings.
2nd Kim Vote: Unanimous

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Article 5:

The chairman asked that the article be judged by its merits. There was displeasure with the lack of communication and public relations. A motion to approve was made by Terry, Kevin 2nd the article. No other motions were made. Vote was 10 in favor and Scott was opposed. Article passed 10-1-0.

Article 6:

The chairman gave the digest version of the digester. Discussion was held to clarify the intent of this payment. The chairman asked numerous times “is this the last time we’ll be ask to approve a payment?” The response from Mr. Furtado was “Yes.” A motion was made by Scott to recommend the payment of \$196,000.00. Second by Kim Vote: Unanimous

Article 11:

Motion was made to recommend at Town Meeting by Scott, 2nd by Kim. Passed Unanimously.

Article 14:

General discussion was held on the possible topics to be address by the Mass Report on Recommendations for financial affairs in Fairhaven. Motion made to Indefinitely Postpone by Kim, multiple seconds were heard, Scott abstained and was not present. Motioned passed 10-0-1.

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(During this meeting there was a large insect that landed on the Chairman during a speech in which the insect must not found it to his liking. After swatting around the insect the Chairman finally dispatched the bug. Mr. Osuch delighted in the manner in which the bug had bothered the chairman. The chairman noted to Mr. Osuch specifically that the chair is used to dealing with a pest during finance committee meetings.)

Submitted by:

Sid Martin