

# Town of Fairhaven

## Finance Committee

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Minutes of the meeting for <April 23, 2015> at the BPW Administration Building, 5 Arsene St., Fairhaven, MA

Members in attendance:

Chairman-John Roderiques, Robert A. Furtado, Scott Fernandes, Padraic Elliott, Kathi Carter, Lisa Plante

Member absent:

John Mota

Town of Fairhaven:

Jeffery Osuch- Executive secretary

Meeting was covered by government access television. Member of the press was not present.

Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Announced that the meeting was being recorded by government access TV. Chairman has to be notified if anyone else present is recording the meeting by video or audio.

Motion made by Scott to accept the minutes from April 9, 2015. Seconded by Pat. Vote: Unanimous

- Chairman distributes a handout from the Association of Town Finance Committees, detailing 3 upcoming educational opportunities for members.
- Chairman presents a Reserve Fund Transfer request from Mr. Osuch, for the Animal Control Officer, in the amount of \$500.  
Money is requested for Heat because of the very cold winter, and the heat had to be turned up because a pipe froze and broke.
  - Lisa asks if there were any associated expenses because of the broken pipe.
  - Mr. Osuch states no. The copper pipe was repaired and there was no damage to the building.
    - Scott motions to transfer \$500 to Acct. # 001-292-00-5211-00-0130 Dog Officer- Purchase of Services- Heat light power. Seconded by Pat. Vote: Unanimous

- Special Town Meeting- Article 2- Conservation Restriction Donation Authorization
  - Chairman states that this is the Selectmen's Article and he recommends letting the Selectmen do what they want.
  - The land was originally gifted to the Town to protect the watershed.
  - Lisa asks if there are financial repercussions.
    - Chairman states there is no money appropriation.
  - Pat asks why this is being done.
    - Chairman states it is being done because a nonprofit group requested it.
    - Chairman states this land would be combined with a larger portion that was purchased with a State grant and partly CPA money.
  - Pat asks Mr. Osuch the location of the land.
    - Mr. Osuch points out the land on a map, for the committee.
  - Chairman and Mr. Osuch state there is talk that the Selectmen may reconsider their vote, because of the piece of land we already own.
    - Scott motions to Yield to Petitioner. Seconded by Pat. Vote: Unanimous
  
- Chairman asks members if there is anything else they want to discuss?
  - Lisa states her displeasure with people not being held to the Article submittal deadline.
  - Chairman states that issue rests on the Selectmen.
  
- Discussion of Finance Committee members:
  - Chairman states if Article 31 passes everyone's term is extended until June 30, 2015.
  - If the Article doesn't pass, anyone who's term is up will end at the end of Town Meeting, and they should seek reappointment from their Precinct Chairperson if they are interested in continuing.
  - Chairman states he will set up the Vice Chairman with getting started until the reorganization meeting.
  
- Discussion of the 2 Selectmen attending the Fin Com meetings, and that helping with the budget process.
  
- Scott thanks Chairman Roderiques for his many years of service to the Town, on the Fin Com.
  
- Chairman states he will post a meeting for Wednesday night, the Precinct Meeting. No meeting Thursday.  
 Post for meeting the morning of TM @ 8:15 AM.  
 Chairman states if members don't hear from him, we won't have to meet at 8:15 AM.

- Chairman thanks Mr. Osuch for his service, as this will be his last Annual Town Meeting.

7:31 PM. Pat motions to adjourn. Seconded by Lisa. Vote: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted by:

Robert A. Furtado  
Finance Committee Secretary  
(accepted 6-11-2015)