



Finance & Advisory Board Meeting
Georgetown, MA
March 22, 2011
Minutes

The meeting came to order at 7:08 P.M. with the following persons present:

Members: Sandy Gerraughty – chair, Andrew Belliveau – vice chair, Robin O’Malley – clerk, Lisa Collin, Chuck Dickson, Jim Lacey, Reg Tardif

Absent: John Bonazoli

Guests: Philip Trapani, David Surface, Gary Fowler and Steve Smith – BOS, Mike Farrell – Town Administrator, Peter Durkee – Highway Surveyor, Anne Donahue – School Committee, Carol Jacobs – Superintendent, Terry Wiggin - Director of Finance and Operations, Carl Shreder, Steven Przyjemski – ConCom, Don Cudmore – Police, Rusty Ricker and Al Beardsley – Fire Dept, Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello – Council on Aging, Tillie Evangelista – Planning, Nick Cracknell – Planner, Stu Egenberg, Michelle Smith, Rob Hoover - town residents

Minutes taken by Robin O’Malley

Fire Dept, Ambulance Service:

- We were requested to give our opinions, individually. Everyone gave their opinion, except Sandy who was not at the meeting where this proposal was presented.
- David Surface and Mike Farrell spoke to both Byfield Ambulance and Action Ambulance to get cost figures. Action was significantly higher than Byfield. The board is concerned that the residents not be charged over what they are being charged presently.
- This would be set up as a Revolving Fund rather than an Enterprise Fund for the present. It can always be reviewed.
- Jim Lacey made a motion to recommend to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to accept the ambulances and start a revolving fund. Reg Tardif seconded. Motion carried 6-0-1 with Sandy Gerraughty abstaining.

Budget:

- Sandy handed out an unbalanced FY2012 Budget
- We still do not have a solid idea of revenue numbers from the state; the reduction can be anywhere from 6% to 10%.
- Much discussion took place as to print this or not, it was decided to hold off until a future date.
- Jim Lacey made a motion to keep the detailed budget out of the printed book, but make the detail available to the public 1 week prior to town meeting. Reg Tardif seconded. Motion carried 7-0.

Town Meeting:

- The length of town meeting was discussed. Can the warrant be shortened? Do we plan for 2 nights? The BOS needs to make a decision on how to proceed.

Other:

- Terry Wiggin gave us a memo with the answers to our questions from the 3/16/11 meeting with the school dept.
- Snow/ice is about \$409,000, free cash, after paying snow/ice, is about \$438,000

Override:

- There are 2 potential override questions. Only one will be on the warrant, the BOS will make that decision. We discussed both.
- One is a school department override only. The school committee is meeting on Thursday, 3/24/11, and will be making a decision that night on an amount.
- Anne Donohue did send letters to the unions telling them that the Finance and Advisory Board is asking for a 0% increase across the board for FY12. She has received no answer from any of the unions.

- The other override question would be a maintenance and school override, combined. The school committee will be getting the number at their 3/24/11 meeting. The maintenance part of this override is to combine all maintenance budgets into one. The one department would cover all the school buildings, the town hall, the library, the public safety building and the highway buildings.
- Mike presented the board with an estimate of what is currently budgeted in the FY12 budget for maintenance. Highway and Library were left off but it will add minimal to the \$546, 415 currently budgeted. This includes both salaries and supplies.
- Mike has had a contractor that came in and reviewed all buildings included. We should have the cost at our next meeting on 3/29.
- We were requested to give our opinions, individually, on whether we support on override. Everyone gave their opinion.

Jim Lacey made a motion to adjourn. Reg Tardif seconded. Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 29, 7:00 pm 2nd floor of town hall.