

**Finance and Advisory Board Meeting
Minutes of the Finance & Advisory Board
Town of Georgetown
April 1, 2008**

Location – 3rd floor Meeting Room – Town Hall

Members in Attendance – Sandy Gerraughty – Chair, Jon Ayres – Vice Chair, Robin O'Malley – secretary, ~~Mark Hall~~, Jim Lacey, Jack L'hommedieu, Tim Ruh, David Surface, Reggie Tardif

Guests: Steve Delaney, Lonnie Brennan (selectmen), Chris Dubois (fire dept), Mike Anderson (fire dept), John Durkee (fire dept), Jonathan Goldfield (school dept), Carol Jacobs (school dept), James Mulligan (police dept), David Thomson (police dept), Donald Cudmore (police dept), Peter Durkee (highway), Steve Epstein

Minutes taken by Robin O'Malley

Meeting called to Order at 7:06 PM by Sandy Gerraughty

Reserve Fund Transfer:

Jim Lacey made a motion to transfer \$7,000 from the reserve fund to line item 154311-52000, Veterans Service Expense. Reg Tardif seconded. Vote was 8-0 in favor.

The balance of the reserve fund will be \$18,000 after this transfer.

Budget Discussion: Using the 2nd pass budget 4/1/08 for our discussion

- ◆ Conservation Commission will be reduced by \$10,000 from \$46,794 to \$36,794.
- ◆ Veteran's services expense was reduced by \$4,628 to \$40,372. We need to add the \$4,628 back to their budget in the fall.
- ◆ The total balanced budget is \$21,990,406
- ◆ The school is reducing their budget by the following items:

Substitutes	\$ 26,308	
Behaviorist	20,000	
Special Education, 2 aides	24,000	they will be laid off
Special Education	60,000	a student moved out of district, \$40,000 and the van purchase, \$20,000
Copiers	10,000	
Maintenance	10,000	
Utilities, reduced by 2%	7,300	
Special Education	25,000	outreach
Summer positions	4,292	

Still short \$115,160, so in hopes of not laying off 5 support people, we are hoping to pre-buy supplies for next year with money from this year's budget. There were a couple of positions that were never filled. They are hoping to be able to use this money for supplies for FY09.

- ◆ Police is reducing their budget by \$36,720. They reductions are as follows:

Animal control wages	\$16,000 to \$ 3,449
Animal control mat'ls	9,000 to \$ 385
School crossing guards	6,720 to \$ 7,756
Maintenance	5,000 to \$11,083
- ◆ Police: are still looking for 2 defibrillators. Cost is about \$2,000 each.
- ◆ Highway: exact breakout of numbers will be decided on Thursday, 4/3
- ◆ Stabilization balance is \$1,317,330
- ◆ Reserve Fund: There was discussion over whether or not we should move money from the stabilization fund to the reserve fund for FY09. Reg Tardif made a motion to move \$75,000 from the stabilization fund to the reserve fund. Jim Lacey seconded the motion. After more discussion Jim Lacey rescinded his motion and Reg Tardif seconded. Motion rescinded.

Reg Tardif made a motion to move \$50,000 from the stabilization fund to the reserve fund. Jim Lacey seconded. The vote was 6-2 with David Surface and Tim Ruh against.
- ◆ After the adjustments were made to the 2nd pass budget, 4/1/08, the total budget is \$21,990,406. Jim Lacey made a motion to accept the 2nd pass budget of 4/1/08, with minor adjustments still to be made to the highway department line items. Reg Tardif seconded. Vote was 8-0.

- ◆ Historically – if the town has any money in the fall, the Finance and Advisory Board tries to give some back to the departments that were reduced.

Warrant Discussions:

Police Department:

- ◆ \$106,000 for Computer Aided Dispatch, ATM08-016. According the Chief Mulligan the system is at the “crisis point”, the software is breaking down. Approved by CIP. Discussion over actual cost is more like \$115,000 to \$140,000
Jim Lacey made a motion to accept article ATM08-016 to be funded from stabilization fund. David Surface seconded.
Jim rescinded the motion, David seconded. Motion rescinded
Jim Lacey made a motion to accept article ATM08-016 for \$115,000 to be funded from the stabilization fund. David Surface seconded the motion. Vote 5-2-1, with Reg Tardif and Jack L’hommedieu voting against and Jon Ayres abstaining.
- ◆ \$125,000 for Public Safety Roof, ATM008-017. The Chief said that his top priority is the software, the roof can wait if he has to.
Tim Ruh made a motion to recommend ATM08-017 for \$125,000 to be funded from debt exclusion. Reg Tardif seconded the motion.
Tim rescinded the motion, Reg seconded. Motion rescinded
Tim Ruh made a motion that we recommend to the Selectmen that ATM08-017 for \$125,000 to be put on the ballot as a one time override. Reg Tardif seconded. Vote was 4-4 with Robin O’Malley, Jack L’hommedieu, Jon Ayres and Jim Lacey voting against.

Fire Department:

- ◆ \$91,000 for a fire department override. This is not a one time override. This would cover three per diem shifts and one 30 hour a week chief. The shifts would be split between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
David Surface made a motion to recommend approval of article ATM08-042 for the fire department override in the amount of \$91,000. Reg Tardif seconded. Vote was 7-1 with Jon Ayres against.

School Department:

- ◆ \$45,000 for two vans for use by the school department. This will help reduce Special Education costs for transporting students out of district.
Jim Lacey made a motion to recommend approval of article ATM08-039 for \$45,000. Reg Tardif seconded. Vote was 7-1, Jack L’hommedieu against.
- ◆ \$43,000 for two copiers for a central copying center.
Jim Lacey made a motion to recommend approval of article ATM08-040 for \$43,000. Reg Tardif seconded. Vote was 8-0.
- ◆ \$60,000 Security System Upgrades at the Middle High School. There has been vandalism in areas where the current security system does not cover.
David Surface made a motion to recommend approval of article ATM08-041 for \$60,000. Reg Tardif seconded. The vote was 7-1, Jack L’hommedieu against.

Highway Department:

- ◆ \$50,000 to repair the roof on the old highway building.
Tim Ruh made a motion to recommend to selectmen to put the article ATM08-019 back on the warrant for \$50,000 and as a one time override. Reg Tardif seconded. Vote was 6-0-2, with David Surface and Robin O’Malley abstaining. Due to confusion over the exact vote, we re-voted. The vote is 7-0-1 with Robin O’Malley abstaining.

Energy Conservation:

- ◆ More discussion is needed, so we will hold off voting until 4/3/08.

Minutes still to approve:

- ◆ 8/15/07, 1/29/08, 2/6/08, 2/12/08, 2/26/08, 2/28/08, 3/05/08, 3/13/08, 3/19/08, 3/25/08

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, 04/03/08**, 7:00 pm 2nd floor meeting room.

Motion to adjourn was made by Tim Ruh and seconded by David Surface at 10:14 PM. Motion carried unanimously 8-0.

To Do:

Health insurance: who qualifies, what are the exact details

Budget adjustments:

- ◆ Assessors wages – need to move \$1,224 from assessors expense to assessors staff salary
- ◆ Highway wages – Peter will give us on 4/3
- ◆ Library - need to get breakout from library

Next budget, FY10, please separate out Fire and Police