

FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
April 15, 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:30 P.M.

Rob Cannon absent.

Discussed the meeting with the School Committee and the Select Board held this past Monday evening. A presentation was made by the Supt. of Schools of the budget as it currently stands and of cuts that have been placed on the table but not yet acted upon. The figures presented did not reconcile with the data we had previously received and we could not definitively state what is the projected shortfall. The Select Board and the Finance Committee were asked to comment. The meeting then became open to pre-registered members of the public who primarily spoke on the disastrous nature of the proposed cuts and the need to solve the budget crisis by transferring funds from the stabilization fund. Subsequent to those public comments, it took a question from John Libera to get a discussion going on aspects of the budget which is the supposed purpose of the meeting and, even then, a reluctance was apparent in answering some questions.

Emre Evren and Jim Pietras joined the meeting. Our feelings about the Monday meeting were given and we discussed areas of school finance practices that were generally not known by them. We all recognize that a long term solution is necessary and that any short term relief must be short term in nature. Unless the shortfall can be eliminated by cuts or realignments, an override is probably the remaining solution but that is problematical given the need for an override for a new school building and the proposal for sewers.

Motion made, seconded and approved unanimously at 9:30 P.M. to recess until 6:30 P.M. on April 16, 2015.

Meeting reconvened at 6:35 P.M.

Rob Cannon absent.

Discussed the budgets based upon the additional information provided by the Town Administer and several department heads. John will pursue the remaining issues from the first pass through as well some new questions resulting from the additional information.

Motion made, seconded and approved unanimously to adjourn at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Glesmann, Clerk