



Finance Committee
 Town of Halifax
 499 Plymouth St.
 Halifax, MA 02338

Meeting Minutes
 Monday, November 16, 2015

	Gordon Andrews	Linda Braga	Mel Conroy	Nikki Newton	Stu Hall	Julianne Crawford	Vacant
Present	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	

Others in Attendance:

Charlie Seelig, Town Administrator; Sandy Nolan, Town Accountant; Summer Schmalig, HES School Committee Chairperson.

Chairman Gordon Andrews opened the meeting at 7:05pm.

Meeting is being filmed by Area 58

Mail

A Talent Bank form from Anna Grace Raduc was received. Kendra will schedule an appointment with her for our next meeting.

Zoning Meeting Schedule for 2016 was received.

2 Copies of the Beacon were received.

Interview

Meeting with Mr. Ed Gavin in regards to the submission of his Talent Bank Form. Gordon Andrews explained the Finance Committee's job and duties. Mr. Gavin is a Fireman and works on a rotating schedule. Most of the meetings would not be a problem but there may be a few meetings that would conflict with his work schedule.

After meeting with all Candidates, a meeting will be set up with the Board of Selectmen for appointments for the chosen candidate.

Property Tax

See handout from Charlie "Operating Budget plus a Few Articles"
 Possible to see a 10% increase in insurance premiums for the year. Most of the numbers are fictitious but they are educated guesses. Using these numbers, we have approximately a \$207,000.00 deficit. The anticipated Social Security increase this year is zero.

SPED

If we increased SPED programs in house in hopes of decreasing out of district money going out, there is no guarantee that the students would come back into district. They are not required to return to district for services. If created for Halifax Elementary School at Silver Lake it would still be Out of District but at a much lower cost. All Silver Lake programs for Silver Lake level students would be in District. Summer will set up a meeting with Marie Grable. Area 58 will send a link to the presentation. They are looking at possibly paying the retirement out of the grant differently in order to save \$40,000.00.

Capital Items

School Roof: Paperwork needs to be submitted in January. We need a meeting set up so that all of our “ducks are in a row” and we don’t miss this opportunity. We may need to add on some gutters, an energy project, solar panels or something else. It needs to be discussed thoroughly. The Selectmen, School Committee, Municipal School Building and School Committee, Capital Plan should meet ASAP. Gordon will work with Charlie to organize a meeting.

Vehicles & Equipment: None known for this year. Next year we may be looking at an ambulance purchase.

Major Road Projects: None planned.

Pope’s Tavern

More info will be available at the Building Committee Meeting tomorrow. There will be no answer on the grant for the Architectural drawings until August of 2016.

3 Town and Silver Lake

Next meeting is the 4th Monday in January, January 25, 2016 at 7:15pm. Kendra to email an invitation to Joy, Mary McKinnon, Susan Ossoff, Elaine Fiore, Mark Russo, Paula Hatch, Kim Roy. Discussion will be on House One and Budget implications for FY17. Possible “Rain Date” will be January 28, 2015.

Summer would like to be able to meet with the Finance Committee more often during Budget Season to eliminate any tug of wars between the two committees. It was suggested to meet the second Monday of every month with the HES School Committee beginning on January 11, 2015 at 8pm.

Meals Tax

Julianne Crawford made a motion to put the Meals Tax on the Warrant for FY17 at .75%. Seconded by Stu Hall. Motion passed unanimously.

Charlie will get a list of vendors that will be collecting the tax so that an impact forum can be held. Talk was to hold it in April, closer to Town Meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

12/7/15 – 10 Town Review

Nikki Newton made a motion to adjourn at 8:40pm. Seconded by Mel Conroy. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mel Conroy
Clerk