



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

Meeting Minutes  
 Monday, October 27, 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; Tom Millias, Selectmen. See sign in sheet for members from other towns.

Chairman Gordon Andrews opened the meeting at 7:02pm.

Reserve Fund Transfers

Charlie Seelig submitted a request for a Reserve Fund Transfer to the Property Survey Account in the amount of \$3,250.00. This is in reference to the Monponsett St. & White Island Rd. property that is in Tax Title Status.

Mel Conroy made a motion to approve the Reserve Fund Transfer. Seconded by Linda Braga. Motion passed unanimously. (Julianne had not arrived at the meeting at the time the vote was taken so she did not vote.)

Charlie Seelig submitted a request for a Reserve Fund Transfer to the COA joint grant application work in the amount of \$3,250.00. This transfer would allow conceptual plans to go to Town meeting in 2017. The downside is if we don't get the money. Mailings are going out in target areas to show interest in the Community. The money is earmarked for a COA project for the expansion/renovation of Popes Tavern.

Nikki Newton made a motion to approve the Reserve Fund Transfer. Seconded by Stu Hall. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting with 3 Towns

For the upcoming fiscal year, Halifax is looking at work on the Elementary School; we are behind on IT and improvements to the COA. Plympton is going to need to make a move with their Fire Department. Kingston is unaware of any significant issues at this time. They may possibly be looking into a new Police Station and new Library, but those are not definite at this time.

Elaine Fiore feels that the state is aware of the struggles at the local level. Silver Lake has contacted the Administration but the state has not contacted Silver Lake yet regarding the upcoming changes. The Superintendent has not had a conversation with the DESE

yet. She is anticipating that there will be no significant changes. Susan Ossoff feels the formula will not change until everyone is held harmless. It is probably safe to say there will be no change.

The Grants are not increasing by the same rate as the cost needs. The difference will fall back on the operational budget. The school is trying to get as much out of each grant as they can but grants are limited.

Solar projects are fairly consistent. Maybe next year will be more stable after looking at this year's numbers. The school is looking at solar panels in the parking lots as a possible source of relief.

Assessment: see two handouts from Gordon Andrews.

Plympton is the only school accepting School Choice. It provides about \$5,000.00 in revenue per student. Silver Lake District pays out \$33,000.00 to Norfolk Aggie and \$11,000.00 in Vocational to Silver Lake.

We have a new SPED Director. She is working on a plan to keep the majority of SPED offered within the Silver Lake District so that we don't have to pay to send students out of District. If you have 3 students then the cost is a wash. Anything more is a cost savings. Mary McDonough expressed concerns of paying long term health care. Joy Blackwood disagreed. If all of this actually happens we will most likely be able to find the space and not have the need to build new space to accommodate.

Silver Lake's Capital Plan includes a phone system that has been an ongoing issue. It is currently a VOIP system. The cost will be approximately \$130,000.00 to switch over, but the realized savings on the bills will be significant.

There was talk of the towns sharing a Facilities Manager and IT position. It could be a cost savings. Plympton is interested in regionalizing Fire Services. Talks will continue between the Boards of Selectmen.

Stu Hall made a motion to adjourn at 8:39pm. Seconded by Julianne Crawford. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Mel Conroy  
Clerk