



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

Meeting Minutes
 Monday, January 27, 2014

	Gordon Andrews	Karen Fava	Margaret (Peg) Fitzgerald	Nikki Newton	Stu Hall	Summer Schmaling	Vacant
Present	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	

Others in Attendance: Kendra Kelly, Finance Committee Secretary; Charlie Seelig, Town Administrator; Sandy Nolan, Town Accountant; Kim Roy, Selectmen, Gerry Elliott, Director of Building Maintenance; John Campbell, Municipal and School Building Committee

Meeting called to order by Gordon Andrews at 7:10pm

Reserve Fund Transfers

Gerry Elliott submitted a request for a Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount of \$8,000.00 to be transferred to Town Building Expense. Currently the balance in that line is \$-457.33 once the bills that have been submitted are paid. The amount requested will be used for general maintenance, repairs, emergencies and other unforeseen expenses.

Karen Fava made a motion to approve. Seconded by Stu Hall. Motion passed unanimously.

Charlie Seelig submitted a request for a Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount of \$9,250.00 to be transferred to Fire Chief Recruitment (new account). Currently there is no money in this line. The amount requested will be used for a contract with Emergency Response Systems, advertising and meals. The resignation of the Fire Chief to serve in the same capacity in the town of Sandwich was unforeseen and therefore we now need to begin the process to find a replacement. Capt. Cuzzo will most likely fill the interim Chief position and a call Fireman will fill Capt. Cuzzo's shifts so there will be no overtime to be paid out. They are hoping to fill the position permanently by May 1.

Nikki Newton made a motion to approve. Seconded by Stu Hall. Motion passed unanimously.

Building Maintenance Update

The School Boiler is complete. After the \$12,000.00 rebate we will be looking at an approximate final number of \$70,000.00 out of the \$120,000.00 appropriation. The \$50,000.00 extra will be returned to Stabilization 1.

Fire Department Roof had allotted \$28,000.00, total was \$26,500.00.

Police Roof is done. \$46,000.00 was allotted, total was \$36,700.00.

COA Driveway is complete. \$18,500.00 was allotted, total was \$18,000.00.

Library Carpet had \$27,000.00 allotted, total was \$20,000.00.

School House had \$10,000.00 allotted, total was \$8,000.00.

Generators had \$85,000.00 allotted, total was \$75,000.00. They will hopefully be on site in 2-3 weeks.

COA Plans Update

The Architect budgets are coming in. At the end of the week the figures should be in.

The last bid was 1.3 million for an approximately 6,000 sq ft addition including a 3 floor elevator. The cellar will be used for storage. The upstairs will have smaller medical rooms and the Director's office. Extra parking is to be determined.

School Committee Meeting Questions

Kingston Fin Comm. has submitted a list of questions that they would like asked at tomorrow's meeting. Halifax agrees with that list. Gordon's concern is that the chrome books are not a onetime expense. Eventually we may see a book savings but it is a new operating expense item. So far, it looks like it will be a mandated item by FY18. Gordon would also like to ask the School Committee to speed up the budget process by a month if possible.

In the future, all correspondence should go through the School Committee before going to John Tuffy. Cassey Hanson called Gordon and was upset that Kendra had sent a letter on Gordon's behalf directly to John Tuffy, bypassing the School Committee.

Governor's Budget

The numbers are out. State Owned Land numbers are down slightly. The Town of Halifax has not received the land from Burrage Pond yet. The increase represents a "payment in lieu of taxes. It is not equal to what is charged for property tax. Silver Lake's increase for Chapter 70 is \$46,000.00. Peg sent a message that she would like to know if Halifax's assessment is a straight cut or a percentage. It looks to Sandy to be a percentage. It is recommended to level fund State Aid until the House numbers are out in April.

Treasurer's Expense

If there are questions with this budget, please see Linda Cole. The expense line will show an increase as the Assistants will be attending classes that will be beneficial to their office.

Upcoming Meetings

2/3/14 – Joint meeting with Kingston and Plympton Fin Comm.'s at the Kingston Town Hall.

2/10/14 – Look at all level funded budgets. We have 2 appointments, Board of Health and the Beautification Committee.

2/17/14 – No meeting due to the holiday.

2/24/14 – Summer's Liaisons should come in if needed. Please allow 1.5 hours for the Council on Aging.

Please schedule Bob Badore for the first or second week in March.

9:28 pm Nikki Newton made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Stu Hall. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikki Newton
Corresponding Clerk