



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

Meeting Minutes
 Monday, February 10, 2014

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

Others in Attendance: Kendra Kelly, Finance Committee Secretary; Sandy Nolan, Town Accountant; Kim Roy, Selectmen, Robin Bellanger, Beautification Committee; Amy Troup – Greeley, Beautification Committee; Joy Marble, Beautification Committee.

Meeting called to order by Gordon Andrews at 7:12pm

Mail

A letter from Pat Joseph of Holmes Street was read concerning the potential need for a new COA building.

A copy of the Beacon was available.

Old Business

Peg is wondering where we stand with the Plymouth County Assessments. There will be a 14% increase in assessments that will extend out to 2034. There will be an 8% increase in upcoming years in order to move the date back to 2030.

COA Plans Update

The latest proposal is to purchase All Seasons Restaurant for the new COA location. Peg feels that would be a great option and what they are proposing is impressive. She does not want to increase taxes by increasing the debt exclusion. Kim is concerned about the lack of an outside sitting area for the seniors.

OPEB Update

MMA is officially not supporting the commissions' recommendations. Kim said she is not sure what is happening yet. She suggests to keep planning on OPEB as nothing seems to be changing for now.

Capital Planning

All we have available is about \$150,000.00. If it is in tax title it is not considered available funds. That is why Sandy is recommending releasing \$50,000.00 from Overlay.

More will come from the Finance Team Meeting. The top priority items are listed out. Sandy is requesting that the head of technology and the Principal of the school come in to discuss the computers. If we fund all of the top priority items, that will leave approximately \$20,000.00 for smaller items. If we go this way, OPEB would not be funded from this account. A 5 year plan summary has also been provided.

Beautification Committee

They are requesting \$500.00. They would like to start a program to put up littering signs with fines stated on them. They are hoping to get a cleanup day for residents to clean up in front of their properties. Peg is in favor of this budget. Kim also suggested that they search out donations. In FY13, they were approved for a budget of \$500.00. In FY14 they were only approved for \$1.00 as there really was no Committee at the time. The \$500.00 from FY13 is encumbered for an order of signs that was already placed. They have a new member coming into the Selectmen's meeting tomorrow night. He would like to start a Garden Club up if he is appointed to the Committee.

142 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$500.00 for Beautification Committee Expense. Seconded by Peg Fitzgerald. Motion passed unanimously.

Library

Nikki has gone over the Library budget. There is an increase because of the minimum required increase to meet their certification. This includes \$1,800.00 from the revolving account. Nikki is urging the committee to approve this budget. She feels it is not worth losing the certification over a \$212.00 increase. The library would also like assurance that if there is a cost of living increase, the expense budget will not fall below level funded. All members were in agreement. There was also discussion about the expense line and that it should be audited more closely just as we do with other departments.

129 – Peg Fitzgerald made a motion to recommend \$59,811.00 for Library – Director Salary. Seconded by Nikki Newton. Motion passed unanimously.

130 – Peg Fitzgerald made a motion to recommend \$158,281.00 for Library – Wages. Seconded by Nikki Newton. Motion passed unanimously.

131 – Peg Fitzgerald made a motion to recommend \$85,165.00 for Library – Expense. In addition, if there is a cost of living increase, the expense budget will not be decreased below level funded. Seconded by Nikki Newton. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 5 Line Items

Line 1 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$200.00 for Moderator Salary. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 2 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$4,500.00 for Selectmen Salary. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 3 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$87,051.00 for Town Admin. Salary. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 4 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$68,531.00 for Selectmen Clerical. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 5 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$4,100.00 for Selectmen Expense. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously

Line 6 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$42,200.00 for Law. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 7 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$12,800.00 for Town Hall Electricity. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 8 – Hold

Line 9 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$20,000.00 for Audit. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 10 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$4,367.00 for Fin Comm. Clerical. Seconded by Peg Fitzgerald. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 11 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$359.00 for Fin Comm. Expense. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 12 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$69,723.00 for Accountant Salary. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 13 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$46,165.00 for Accountant Clerical. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 14 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$1,625.00 for Accountant Expense. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 15 – Hold

Line 16 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$4,500.00 for Assessors Salary. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 17 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$65,527.00 for Principal Assessor/Appraiser. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 18 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$64,076.00 for Assessors Clerical. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 19 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$9,700.00 for Assessors Expense. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 20 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$7,700.00 for Office Machines Expense. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 21 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$56,380.00 for Treasurer Clerical. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 22 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$6,500.00 for Treasurer Expense. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 23 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$2,500.00 for Tax Title Treasurer. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 24 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$6,100.00 for Treasurer Banking & Payroll Expense. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 25 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$37,293.00 for Clerk Salary. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 26 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$30,502.00 for Clerk Clerical. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 27 – Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$5,370.00 for Clerk Expense. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 28 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$14,337.00 for Elect/Register. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 29 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$63,890.00 for Treasurer/Collector Salary. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 30 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$59,331.00 for Collector Clerical. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 31 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$12,922.00 for Collector Expense. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 32 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$4,551.00 for Wage & Personnel Clerical. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 33 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$250.00 for Wage & Personnel Expense. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 34 - Nikki Newton made a motion to approve \$6,000.00 for Recruitment & Employment Costs. Seconded by Summer Schmaling. Motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming Meetings

2/17/14 – No Meeting

2/24/14 – Move COA to 8pm and put BOH in at 7:30. We should have an OPEB update as well.

3/3/14 – Schedule Bob Badore and Gerry Elliott to come in and discuss their budgets.

9:10 pm Stu Hall made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Peg Fitzgerald. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikki Newton
Corresponding Clerk