

TOWN OF HARVARD

Finance Committee

Minutes

Meeting Date: Saturday, January 21, 2012

Meeting Place: Town Hall

Members Present: Bob Thurston (designated chair), Steve Colwell, Alan Frazer (assoc.), Alice von Loesecke, George McKenna, Rudy Minar, Laura Vilain (assoc.)

Members Not Present: Marie Fagan (chair), Heidi Frank

Others Present: Jack Spero (Board of Health & Cemetery representative), Bruce Leicher (chair, Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management-BHPWM), Bill Johnson, Peter von Loesecke

Meeting Time: 9:16 a.m. Adjournment Time: 11:07 a.m.

Discussion and Actions

- > Bob Thurston opened the meeting at 9:16 am
- > No minutes for review
- > No public comment
- > No Town Administrator Report or Finance Director Report
- > Presentation and Review of Board of Health Budget
 - - Jack Spero was asked about if there was still a 3-year contract with Nashoba Health services. He will find out. He explained the increase of office supplies are filing cabinets.
- > Presentation and Review of Cemetery's Budget
 - - Jack Spero explained the need for a new roof, estimating the cost of under \$5K. Perpetual care and the general fund were discussed, as well as some DPW work. The committee had a question about phone service; is one line dedicated to the security system, and the other for messages?
 - - A motion was made to change the BoH's budget line 53194 Minuteman Home Care from \$781 to \$1018, and to change the budget line 52210 Purchased Services from \$100 to \$0. The vote was 5:0 in favor.
 - - A motion was made to change the Cemetery's budget line 52900 Purchased Services from \$6500 to \$2500, and to change the budget line 54600 Supplies from \$300 to \$0. The vote was 5:0 in favor.
- > Presentation and Review of Bare Hill Pond Watershed Management's Budget
 - - Bruce Leicher explained this was the last year of one of the grants funding. The second grant will be spent out in 2013. He also explained that drawdowns increase electricity use, however better methods may mean lower electricity costs in the future. They are also working with crew, and their schedule, so there are some tradeoffs. New technology also suggests shallower drawdowns if pond is not in an eutrophic state (the filling of ponds through excessive plant growth). Currently grants are primary source of funding, and the Pond committee will continue the application process as needed.
- > Discussion of the School Committee budget
 - - It was determined that the School Committee budget was not at level-service

funding. A request was made for more detail on FTE, and a better understanding of the SPED costs of \$250K.

- > No Other business
- > Proposed agenda items for next meeting
- > Next meeting – Wednesday, January 25, 2012

Meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Vilain