## TOWN OF HARVARD Finance Committee <u>Minutes</u>

 <u>Meeting Date:</u> Saturday, April 28, 2012
<u>Meeting Place</u>: Bromfield gymnasium
<u>Members Present</u>: Marie Fagan (chair), Steve Colwell, Heidi Frank, Alan Frazer (assoc.), Alice von Loesecke, George McKenna, Rudy Minar, Bob Thurston, Laura Vilain (assoc.)
<u>Members Not Present</u>: <u>Others Present:</u>
<u>Meeting Time: 8:35 a.m.</u> <u>Adjournment Time: 8:55 a.m.</u>

## **Discussion and Actions**

• Marie Fagan opened the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

• Preparation for Annual Town Meeting

A motion was made to accept the text of the Finance Committee's non-recommendation of article 36, the modification of the CPA surcharge from 1.1% to 3%. Discussion: Steve presented three factors as to why the Finance Committee reconsidered its recommendation for increasing the CPA surcharge: -- 1) only \$1M could be used on the historic portion of the Town Hall; 2) there was no estimate or plan for the use of the additional 1.9% of CPA money should the increase go through; and 3) currently, the money from the CPA surcharge (the portions involving affordable housing and open space) has not been spent.

The first factor was not presented at the Annual Town Meeting because the idea that <u>only</u> \$1M could have been used for the historic part of the Town Hall renovation was questioned. It was explained that more money might have been applied the to the Town Hall project, but that the timing of asking for the money was the issue, not the amount of money deemed historic.

The other two factors were presented at Annual Town Meeting. **The vote was 7:0 to recommend the text as amended.** 

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Laura Vilain