## Minutes Holden Finance Committee, March 7, 2012, HMLD

Members Present: Jim Dunn, Al Berg, Paul Challenger, Peter Lacy, Don Mancini, Joe Dolak, Marilynn Foley

Members Absent: Rick Bates, Karl Makala

Also Present: Nancy Galkowski, Town Manager, Jacquie Kelly, Asst. Town Manager, George Sherrill, Police Chief, Jack Chandler, Fire Chief, Detective Chris Carey, Officer Ray Sherblom, Officer Anthony Gribbons, Ems Responder Russ Hill, Deputy Fire Chiefs: Jack Cross, Peter Bergstrom, Selectmen: Bob Lavigne (by Conference call) Ken O'Brien, Ken Lipka

The meeting was called to order at 7:03.

Jim reported that the Committee will meet on April 4th with WRSD Superintendent Pandiscio. Added to the Agenda 2 items-possible conflict of interest and Don's memo to the Finance Committee.

Police Chief George Sherrill introduced Liz Hobbs, a police intern from Worcester State University and Sgt. Karl Brenner from the State Police Fleet Division.

George answered questions concerning the Police Department Budget, Animal Control and Sealer of Weights and Measurers.

George and Jack answered questions concerning the new Public Safety Building Budget.

Peter recused himself from the discussion of the Fire Department Budget at 8:54. Peter is an on call Firefighter.

Jack answered questions concerning the Fire Department Budget, EMS Budget and the Fire Stabilization Fund.

Peter returned at 9:45.

Jim reported that there may be an article on the ballot from the Agriculture Commission, of which he is a member, concerning excise taxes on farm equipment and animals. (He was identifying a potential conflict of interest on his part.) The Committee had no concerns about a conflict of interest.

Discussion of Don's memo will be postponed to next week.

Nancy reported that she had a copy of a preliminary WRSD Assessment for the town of Holden. The Voluntary Assessment is up 81%. It was Nancy's opinion that clearly Holden cannot afford this increase without severe cuts to the Municipal Budget.

A motion by Al 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe to approve the minutes of February 29, 2012 was voted unanimously with one correction

The meeting adjourned at 10:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Manhym Mily, Marilynn Foley, Clerk