



Town of Holland, MA—Finance Board

Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2013

Call To Order

The Finance Board Chairman called to order a meeting of the Holland Finance Board at 7:35 PM on April 10, 2013 in the Holland Town Hall. This was a joint meeting with the BOS for the primary purpose of reviewing the FY14 Preliminary Budget to be presented at the April 17, 2013 Public Hearing.

Roll Call

Finance Board Members present: Andrew Harhay, Ken Ference, and Ernest Fancy.
Board of Selectmen members present: Jim Wettlaufer and Michael Kennedy.

Approval of Minutes

The draft minutes of the February 13, 2013 Finance Board meeting were reviewed by the Finance Board members and unanimously approved as written.

New Business

- The Highway Department provided a written notice that funds appropriated for winter plowing had been expended that deficit spending was required. The request was unanimously approved by the Finance Board.
- An e-mail had been received from Deborah Boyd indicating that the Elementary School will soon receive \$30K in extraordinary circuit breaker relief for FY13. As a result, the Holland School Committee feels that \$30K can be returned to the Town either by reducing the FY14 budget now or by that amount being turned back at the end of the year to become Free Cash in FY15. The Finance Board voted unanimously to reduce the FY14 Elementary School budget by \$30K.
- The Chairman provided the members with information on the three Spring workshops being sponsored by the Association of Town Finance Committees.

- The Chairman distributed the background information provided by Dana Manning, one of the residents applying to fill a vacant Board position.

Open Issues

Comments were made on the following line items:

- Mike Kennedy indicated that the District Veteran's Assessment should be conservatively remain at \$10,590 until a decision is made by East Longmeadow as to whether it will remain in the Eastern Hampden County District with Holland, Wales, Monson and Hampden.
- Andy Harhay noted the following:
 - He would contact Tim Harrision as to funds encumbered in the Land Auction Expenses account; some funds might have to be budgeted to enable the Treasurer to hold an auction in FY14.
 - The Library Director provided information on the cost for monthly cleaning of the Library and for annual furnace maintenance... it was requested that \$875 be added to Library expenses for these services.
 - After investigation, the cost for a projector and screen for the Community Center - items discussed at an earlier meeting - was estimated to be \$600; it was requested that funds for the purpose be added to the FY14 budget.
- The capital items currently on the draft budget were again discussed -
 - It was unanimously agreed by the Finance Board members to present these items at the Preliminary Hearing, with 100% of the monies coming from FY14 Free Cash:
 1. Replacement for the '97 Dodge Ram 1-ton Highway truck - \$45K.
 2. New box for the '96 International Highway dump truck - \$14K.
 3. Generator (with installation) at the Community Center, which is also the Town's Emergency Shelter, - \$38K.
 4. Thermal Imager for Fire Department - \$10K.
 5. Used Street Sweeper - \$30K.
 6. General Stabilization Fund (projected to off-set storm loan costs and expected FY15 Tantasqua increase) - \$83,942.

- A decision as to whether create and fund an OPEB Trust will be delayed until we hear from the Accountant at the April 24, 2013 meeting.

Next Meetings

- April 17, 2013 – Public Hearing on Preliminary Budget
- April 24, 2013 – Agenda will include Tim Harrison discussing OPEB

Adjournment

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Andrew Harhay, Chairman

cc: Board of Selectmen, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, Assessors, Accountant