

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING FINAL
Joint meeting with the Finance Committee
May 2, 2009 8:00 am
Sanford Hall, Medway Town Hall

Present: Chairman Glenn Trindade, Selectmen John Foresto, Andy Espinosa, Rich Dunne and Dennis Crowley, Town Administrator, Suzanne Kennedy and Board Secretary, Wendy Harrington was present.

Present from the Finance Committee: Paul Marble, Phyllis Cerel, Eric Arbeene, Mark Brown, Frank Faist, Larry Ellsworth, Jan Fish, Jeff Devolder, Phil Giangarra

Treasurer/Collector Melanie Phillips was also present.

Absent:

The meeting was called to order at 8:05am

Public Comment: None

Budget Projections, FY10, FY11, FY12, Version 2-Updated Health Care, Salary Reserves, State Aid & School Budget as of May 1, 2009

Chairman Trindade began the meeting with a summary of what was presented to the School Committee on April 28, 2009. He explained that the budget is level funded with the exception of the \$235,172 for a non recurring revenue for a reading program being removed and the \$88,184 for the IT Director's position. A budget of \$21,735,938 to the schools will result in the school spending \$22,8M from their general fund due to the stimulus money that will be coming in and will leave them a balance of roughly \$500,000 that will be unspent and reserved for a future year.

Administrator Kennedy explained the numbers to clarify.

Treasurer/Collector Melanie Phillips explained to all present that the schools have verbally agreed to this number, they have not officially voted on it to date.

Selectman Dunne believes the schools are voting yes because they are getting stimulus money.

Many discussions took place with many members clarifying the same. Chairman Trindade explained that the Selectmen met with David Tobin who went into detail in his explanation of Net School Spending and the formulas involved in calculating that number.

Selectman Dunne offered that 2010 looks solid, 2011 look solid, \$800,000 IDEA grant that helps with Special Ed. The biggest issue is 2012, no federal stimulus for that year.

Mr. Marble agreed with the sum. Mr. Ellsworth agreed but the money should be spent wisely and the number of months that the money has to spend the stimulus could carry out to 2015. Chairman Faist explained that the schools need to write grants to receive the stimulus money and it's not in hand and no telling when the money is coming to Medway.

Administrator Kennedy explained that Dr. Evans offered that the school would share with the Town the amount of \$235,172 from the stimulus money.

Mr. Marble asked if there were reductions in the Town side of the budget along with the School side. Administrator Kennedy explained there are no non-recurring in the Town side and there has been a reduction in insurance costs etc.

Chairman Trindade explained the State Aid Police Career Incentives of \$57,090.

Selectman Dunne discussed the wage freeze discussion with the Unions. The municipal union, police and fire unions said that they would agree to a wage freeze so long as the school union agreed as well.

Administrator Kennedy explained the \$3,260 increase in the Selectmen's budget is a placeholder for Conservation Agent regionalization and the Library regionalization.

Chairman Trindade presented the budget line by line with the changes that were agreed upon at the May 1, 2009 Selectmen's meeting. See: Budget Projections, FY10, FY11, FY12, Version 2-Updated Health Care, Salary Reserves, State Aid & School Budget as of May 1, 2009.

Finance Committee Chairman requested that the FinCom budget remain at the budget amount it had last year, due to an increase in salaries and postage. Chairman Faist requested a \$750 increase to come from the \$3,260 placeholder in the Selectmen's expense.

Administrator Kennedy explained a mistake in the budget and a duplication of numbers in the Library budget. Administrator Kennedy will update the document and ask the Selectmen for a reallocation of funds at their meeting on Monday May 4, 2009.

Selectman Dunne explained that the Selectmen moved to allocate the money for the library also requesting a letter of commitment from the Library Trustees to do due diligence in regionalizing with Franklin. Administrator Kennedy explained that the Library is in support of regionalizing and the Franklin Library Director will be known as the Medway Interim Library Director.

A discussion took place regarding regionalizing of other departments as well, Health Agents, Conservation Agent and Library etc.

Selectman Dunne left the meeting at 10:37am.

Chairman Faist discussed when the ATM Warrant would be given to the Finance Committee. The Selectmen will vote on the ATM Warrant on Monday May 4, 2009. Chairman Faist will attend that meeting and it will be decided after the meeting if the Selectmen need to meet with the FinCom before the FinCom public hearing on Wednesday May 13, 2009.

Mr. Marble asked about a Free Cash discussion. Chairman Trindade explained that the Free Cash discussion was not completed at the Selectmen's meeting yesterday.

Mr. Marble would like to see the debt service to the state paid off with Free Cash.

Selectman Crowley offered that the Selectmen aren't necessarily trying to build up stabilization, but putting money aside for 2012 shortfalls.

Ms. Fish asked about pay increases on the municipal side and how those will be explained to the residents and clarify to the public.

Ms. Phillips explained her increase is because she is taking on additional duties.

Chairman Trindade will be sure to make those increases, which can be justified, are clear and explained to the residents.

Chairman Faist suggested those increases should be justified in the write-ups for each department in the Warrant book.

A discussion took place regarding the Shaw Street Emergency Transfer Request and Tree removal of a tree on Highland Street.

Chairman Trindade explained that Shaw Street will be closing and has been agreed upon with the Town of Franklin.

The Finance Committee portion of the meeting ended at 11:09AM

A discussion took place on the Free Cash items, which is a list of items that Selectman Crowley has kept throughout the last few months. They have not been reviewed by the Selectmen to date.

Selectman Foresto discussed the options when adding fiber optics, (cameras at selected locations in town) he has previously discussed with Chief Tingley and Chief Trufant. He updated the Selectmen on where the process is at this point.

Chairman Trindade mentioned looking into paving the road to the recycling center taking the funds from the enterprise account. It was agreed that this project would be wise to put off until future plans for the dump and highway barn are solidified.

Administrator Kennedy explained that the Selectmen haven't looked at the debt service requests and the remaining few DPS requests, extra Library funds and Shaw Street.

Monday's discussion should include a few wish list items, free cash items, warrant approval and the assessor's audit report.

Administrator Kennedy discussed implementing the WhiteWater recommendations and the funding for those recommendations. Administrator Kennedy will ask Dave D'Amico to step in as the Interim Water Department Superintendent as Mr. Flaherty has stepped down and the new Assistant Water Superintendent doesn't have knowledge in all areas required.

Administrator Kennedy would like recommend to allocate the \$100,000 (for flushing, training etc) in the to do list and change the proposed enterprise fund budget. It's important that the rate reflects this allocation. The rate increase will be pennies.

Selectmen Espinosa would like to have the flushing continue in the spring, especially in the areas that have already been flushed, he thinks this is imperative to the flushing program I the "bad" areas of town.

Selectman Crowley would like a discussion about the SCADA system on the May 4, 2009 agenda. Administrator Kennedy would like to put it out until another meeting. Selectman Crowley will contract the contractor and see what the situation is at this point and see if it can go out longer.

At 11:42am, Chairman Trindade moved that the Board adjourn the regular session meeting; Selectman Crowley seconded; no discussion; all ayes 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Harrington
Executive Assistant
*Approved 7/13/09