

Finance Committee Meeting

April 11, 2012 7:30 PM
Veterans Memorial Building, Room 229
900 Main Street
Millis, MA 02054

In Attendance:

Chris Smith, Chairman
Craig Schultze, Vice Chairman (after 8:55 PM)
Rich Molloy, Clerk
Bud Drummey
Peter Jurmain
Rick Manburg
Doug Riley
Susan Vecchi
Charles Aspinwall, Town Administrator
Charles Vecchi, Board of Selectmen
Scott Moles, Board of Health Director

Chris Smith called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM.

Old Business/New Business:

FY12 Revenue and Operating Budget Review:

Charles Aspinwall:

Local Estimated Receipts:

	<u>FY12 Estimated:</u>	<u>Received as of March 31st:</u>
Motor Vehicle Excise:	\$ 827,000.00	\$ 715,870.48
Meals Tax Excise:	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 62,444.51
Penalties & Interest:	\$ 78,694.00	\$ 57,887.88
Payments in Lieu of Taxes:	\$ 4,301.00	\$ 0.00
Charges for Services – Trash	\$ 136,016.00	\$ 93,883.55
Fees:	\$ 37,506.00	\$ 25,176.20
Rentals:	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 15,350.72
Other Departmental Revenue:	\$ 62,219.00	\$ 40,845.44
Licenses & Permits:	\$ 132,000.00	\$ 186,674.74
Fines & Forfeits:	\$ 23,439.00	\$ 13,158.97
Investment Income:	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 11,523.48
Miscellaneous Recurring:	\$ 118,938.00	\$ 200,682.20
Miscellaneous Non-Recurring:	\$ 0.00	\$ 56,365.88
Subtotal:	\$1,521,113.00	\$1,479,864.05

Charges for Services – Sewer	\$ 735,958.42	\$ 601,219.32
Charges for Services – Water	\$ 972,360.62	\$ 806,521.02
Subtotal:	\$1,708,319.04	\$1,407,740.34
 Total:	 \$3,229,432.04	 \$2,887,604.39

Overall, the receipts collected through March 31, 2012 without March interest are 75% of the estimated.

Operating Budget:

Police Salaries are estimated to be \$50,000.00 over budget due to overtime paid during the Police Chief recruitment. This will be offset by remaining funds in the Dispatch budget and Other Expenses.

Council on Aging Expenses are 99.3% expended to date but should be offset by the receipt of a grant.

The Stormwater Management Article is pending an EPA ruling.

The FEMA funds from Tropical Storm Irene should be received by the end of this fiscal year and will be certified for Free Cash. The estimated reimbursement is \$78,750.00 (75% of the \$105,000.00 submitted).

House Ways and Means:

Chapter 70 in the amount of \$4,450,915.00 is consistent with the governor’s budget. Unrestricted Aid in the amount of \$885,551.00 has increased over FY12 approximately \$64,000.00 but is level funded from two years ago. The approximate \$64,000.00 received last fall is included in the town’s Other Available Funds account.

Warrant Article Review/Recommendations:

Article #39 Reauthorize Revolving Funds:

The amount of each fund is set from historical data and the amounts are approved at Town Meeting.

Susan Vecchi made a motion to recommend Article #39 Reauthorize Revolving Funds:

- Oak Grove Farm not to exceed \$15,000.00
- Animal Control Shelter not to exceed \$3,000.00
- School Department Transportation not to exceed \$90,000.00
- Fire Alarm not to exceed \$10,000.00
- Historical Commission not to exceed \$12,000.00
- Ambulance Department not to exceed \$20,000.00
- Youth Commission not to exceed \$5,000.00
- Council on Aging Transportation not to exceed \$5,000.00
- Veterans Memorial Building Custodial and Maintenance not to exceed \$6,000.00
- Food Services not to exceed \$4,500.00
- Stormwater Management not to exceed \$10,000.00

Board of Health Medical Services and Vaccination not to exceed \$3,000.00
Continuing Education not to exceed \$50,000.00

Peter Jurmain seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #12 Quint Ladder Truck: \$675,000.00

This article would replace Engine One and Ladder One with a combination ladder/pumper known as the "Quint". The cost to do so would be approximately \$675,000.00. Certification is done annually on apparatus that is 20+ years old. The lead time to buy and receive the new "Quint" is approximately nine months. In the event the current ladder truck is not certified next year there could be several months the town would not have a ladder truck. The Town Administrator recommends dismissing this article at this time and putting a Capital Exclusion Override on the November 2012 ballot. A Capital Exclusion Override is a one year override funding the entire item. The cost of borrowing to fund this article would result in a large increase in the tax levy. The repairs on the ladder this year were \$11,000.00.

Rich Molloy made a motion to dismiss Article 12; Susan Vecchi seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #16 Chapter 90 Reconsideration/Recommendation:

The amount of Chapter 90 funding has been changed.

Chris Smith made a motion to reconsider Article #16 Chapter 90; Susan Vecchi seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Rick Manburg made motion to recommend Article #16 Chapter 90 in the amount of \$280,110.00; Peter Jurmain seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #17 Local Road Work: \$ 60,000.00

The original funding source for this article (Crestview Drive and Klifford Circle) is not available per the DOR.

Susan Vecchi made a motion to dismiss Article #17; Rich Molloy seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #20 Forest Road Water Main: \$828,000.00

The current main is undersized and unlined and the road needs improvements. The water main would be replaced from Birch Street to the Medfield town line and would complete road construction. The main would be replaced with 8 inch ductile iron pipe. The replacement would improve the quality of the water. Although the project would increase water bills by \$4.08 per quarter, the capital assessment would be reduced by \$1.28 per quarter leaving an overall impact on quarterly water bills of \$2.80.

Rich Molloy made a motion to recommend Article #20, Forest Road Water Main Project in the amount of \$828,000.00; Susan Vecchi seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #21 Well Improvements: TBD

This article is a placeholder at this point. Final bids for improvements to Wells #3 & 4 are due May 4, 2012. If the bid exceeds the already appropriated funds of \$200,000.00 for this project the article amount would be the amount in excess of \$200,000.00. This article will be funded through borrowing under the Water Enterprise Account. This article will be recommended by the committee at the May 9, 2012 Finance Committee Meeting.

Article #22 Pleasant Street Sidewalks/Road: \$358,000.00

This street is on the list for repaving with Chapter 90 money to be presented to the Board of Selectmen at their April 23, 2012 meeting. The project would exceed the FY13 Chapter 90 funds; the Town Administrator recommends dismissal of this article.

Rich Molloy made a motion to dismiss Article #22; Susan Vecchi seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #23 Daniels Street Reconstruction: \$192,000.00

This street is on the list for repaving with Chapter 90 money to be presented to the Board of Selectmen at their April 23, 2012 meeting. Due to lack of funding the Town Administrator recommends dismissal of this article.

Susan Vecchi made a motion to dismiss Article #23; Rich Molloy seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #26 Treasurer Office Window: TBD

The department is having a hard time getting quotes from contractors. Upon receipt of a quote, the project could be funded through the department's budget. At this time, the Town Administrator recommends dismissal of this article.

Rick Manburg made a motion to dismiss Article #26; Peter Jurmain seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #27 Treasurer Drop Box: \$ 2,000.00

Similar to Article # 26 the department is having a hard time getting quotes from contractors. Upon receipt of a quote, the project could be funded through the department's budget. At this time, the Town Administrator recommends dismissal of this article.

Rick Manburg made a motion to dismiss Article #27; Peter Jurmain seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #30 Town Hall Masonry: \$325,000.00

This article would repoint and seal the bricks on the Veteran Memorial Building, the project is not for aesthetic purposes and should be reconsidered in the future with funding through borrowing. The facade project is complete. Due to lack of funding the Town Administrator recommends dismissal of this article.

Rick Manburg made a motion to dismiss Article #30 in the amount of \$325,000.00; Peter Jurmain seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #31 DPW Heating System/Ventilation: \$ 15,000.00

This article will be funded with remaining Snow & Ice funds from the FY12 budget. The Town Administrator recommends dismissal. There is approximately \$22,500.00 left over in Snow & Ice Salaries and \$44,500.00 in Snow & Ice Expenses.

Susan Vecchi made a motion to dismiss Article #31 in the amount of \$15,000.00; Peter Jurmain seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #32 DPW Salt Shed Doors: \$ 9,200.00

This article will be funded with remaining Snow & Ice funds from the FY12 budget. The Town Administrator recommends dismissal.

Rich Molloy made a motion to dismiss Article #32 in the amount of \$9,200.00; Susan Vecchi seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #38 Rescind Borrowing Authority – Postponed pending accurate dollar amounts.

Article #40 Board of Health Appointing Authority:

This is an annual article and allows the Board of Health to appoint health agents.

Susan Vecchi made a motion to recommend Article #40; Peter Jurmain seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #42 Accept Millis Heights:

There is 5,200 square foot lot off of Pleasant Street at the Spencer Street intersection (Map 36, Parcel 34). The property owner no longer wants to pay the taxes (approximately \$60.00 per year) and has offered the lot to the town for \$1.00. The lot could be combined with other lots to create a buildable lot.

Peter Jurmain made a motion to recommend Article #42 in the amount of \$1.00; Susan Vecchi seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

Article #43 Amend Bylaws – Adopt Flood Maps:

The town has to adopt the map FEMA determined as flood areas. The new map defines where flood areas are located. In order to adopt the map there needs to be a change in the town's bylaws. Town Counsel has combined the bylaws into one warrant article. There is no negative impact to any resident. The Planning Board has approved this article.

Peter Jurmain made a motion to recommend Article #43, adopting the flood maps; Rich Molloy seconded. Vote: 7/0 motion carries.

The Cherry Sheet numbers will be out shortly; the kindergarten grant was not cut.

The Board of Selectmen is meeting April 18, 2012 to open/close the Town Meeting Warrant to add the Election Article and review the Unpaid Bills Article.

Minutes Approval:

Peter Jurmain made a motion to accept the April 4, 2012 meeting minutes as written, Susan Vecchi seconded. Vote: 8/0 motion carries.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

April 18, 2012 7:30 PM
Veterans Memorial Building, Room 229

April 25, 2012 7:30 PM
Veterans Memorial Building, Room 229

Adjourn:

Susan Vecchi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM; Peter Jurmain seconded Vote 8/0 motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre Gilmore