

09 MAR 31 AM 10:41

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 11, 2009

A joint meeting of the Orleans Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen was held in the Town Hall Nauset Room in Orleans. Present from the finance committee were Walter Bennett, Mark Fiegel, Dale Fuller, Laurence Hayward, John Hodgson, Peter Monger, Paul Rooker and Rick Sigel. Walter Bennett called the FinCom meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Public Hearing on the Annual Budget, F/Y 10

Mr. Bennett presented an overview of the agenda. He commented on the current economy and its effect on individuals as well as state aid reductions and town revenue reductions. He mentioned budget shortfalls have been projected for FY/10 and beyond.

Mr. Withrow, Finance Director presented a PowerPoint presentation covering Proposition 2 ½ , Property Valuations/Tax Rate and the Financial Plan

Mr. Kelly, Town Administrator presented a PowerPoint overview of the Annual Budget. He covered the current Budget Policy, non property tax revenues, school and non school expenditures, and the budget development process and future planning. He reviewed nine of the significant expense and service reductions currently part of the budget.

When opened to the public for comment, the following issues were discussed:

- It was urged that no cuts be made in the Council on Aging budget.
- Quantification of possible non school Stimulus money to the town was discussed.
- Reductions in the budget that were not part of the Town Administrator's presentation were questioned: the reduced services at the Transfer Station, the message board purchase and closing of public buildings.
- A speaker questioned why salary increases for full time employees continue while there is severe strain on the budget.
- A proposal was made to consider purchase of low mileage, good condition used vehicles rather than new ones.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

Respectfully submitted

Dale Fuller
Recording Secretary