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FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The October 28, 2010, meeting of the Orleans Finance Committee was convened by Chairman Larry Hayward at 7:00 p.m. in the Nauset Room of the Orleans Town Hall. Present constituting a quorum were Chairman, Mr. Larry Hayward, Vice Chairman, MS. Gwen Holden Kelly, Secretary, Mr. Mark Carron, Members, Mr. Dale Fuller, Mr. Ed Barr, Mr. Walter Bennett, Mr. John Hodgson and Mr. Rick Sigel. Absent member; Mr. Paul Rooker

Guests:

Selectman Jon Fuller, Liaison

Approval of Minutes:

On a motion made by the secretary, seconded by Mr. Bennett, the minutes of the September 28, 2010, Finance Committee meeting were approved as amended 7-0-1 (with Mr. Hodgson abstaining).

Tri Town Plant Regional Meeting:

Vice Chairman Ms. Holden Kelly recapped for the members the contents of the meeting held between Orleans, Eastham and Brewster Board of Selectman. The meeting was hosted by the Eastham Board of Selectman and it was a follow-up to a similar meeting held last year. Discussion covered the impact of waste water management on the Tri-Town plant. Does Brewster want to participate? Orleans Town Administrator outlined some scenarios to what might happen in 2015. There appears to be strong feelings by Eastham and Brewster not wanting to extend the current agreement due to Orleans plans.

Public Comment:

Chairman Hayward asked Mr. Bennett to present his suggestion to include "Public Comment" as part of the Finance Committee's regular agenda. Mr. Bennett indicated that it was the practice of the Finance Committee to always accept public comment, but feels that if it were added to the agenda; it will be seen by the public viewing the agenda that public comment is welcomed.

Mr. Bennett moved to included Public Speak, as a regular agenda topic, for residents to present questions of a financial nature to the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. D. Fuller and passed unanimously.

Handouts:



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Chairman Hayward distributed to the members a financial spread sheet reflecting Ambulance Receipts, both expenses and revenue. The Chairman stated that the town collects roughly 85% of the money billed.

A spread sheet reflecting Local Receipts was also distributed. The first payment of the .75% meals tax was reflected in this report.

Chairman Hayward expressed some concern over members contacting department heads prior to the budget season. Mr. D. Fuller expressed concern over the Chairman's comments. Mr. Carron suggested that the committee consider performing the budget interviews at our regular meetings and dispense with the proactive of meeting outside the meetings. This would have all the proceedings on TV as well as educate the voters while enabling all the members to question the department heads. Mr. Carron indicated that this process was how the finance committee reviewed budgets during his first term on the committee in the 80's.

After much discussion the Chairman indicated he would add the topic to the agenda for further discussion.

Town Administrator Questions:

Mr. D. Fuller reviewed with the members a number of questions he would like to have addressed to the Town Administrator. A discussion pursued covering how best the committee could/should address these to the Town Administrator. Vice Chairman Holden Kelly supported Mr. D. Fuller's request to have these questions addressed.

Chairman Hayward requested that both Mr. D. Fuller and Vice Chairman Holden Kelly meet to review the questions which can later be included in a letter to the Town Administrator from the Finance Committee. These questions would then enable the Town Administrator to obtain the necessary information needed to respond to the questions at a joint meeting to be held at a later date. It was requested that both Mr. D. Fuller and Vice Chairman Holden Kelly meet prior to our next meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 18, 2010.

Other Business:

(This header outlines possible future topics)

- Calendar of future committee meeting dates
- Copy of the handout by Dr. Hoffman
- Schedule for Department Head budget review

Reports:



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Mr. Barr reported on the Board of Health has been developing a pricing list of other towns Transfer Station fees in preparation for possible increased due to the upcoming renewal of the town's SEMAS solid waste contract. Some scenario's considered were A) Pay as you go, B) increase fee now and establish a stabilization fund.

Mr. Sigel reported on the September 29th, Board of Selectman meeting which was short and covered most of the Tri Town meeting that Vice Chairman Holden Kelly reported on earlier. The board did vote down the request for \$729.00 to cover the cost to bring an arbitrator in to resolve some Regionalization issues for the police study.

Chairman Hayward reported, for Paul, on the October 6th Board of Selectman meeting which was primarily the report of Mike Domenica.

Mr. Barr reported on the October 20th Board of Selectman's meeting which was mainly as Park Commissioners. After much discussion on the Callahan Pass/Aspinet Road resident concerns the board voted to run the beaches as was in prior years. The concern over the Plovers was discussed with an agreement to send other beach facing towns to collaborate their efforts in pursuing relief from the state.

Discussion moved on to the Hubler property recently purchased by the town for future parking. Need \$5,000 to winterize the property. Discussed leasing the property as a motel for up to 10 years. Discussed the cottages on the property which would require upgrading the septic at a cost of \$140,000.

Mr. Hodgson informed the committee that the Elementary School will need a new Freezer, Floor cleaning machine, and has a new Special Needs student that will cost roughly \$30,000 for one year. The school committee will be putting together a Capital Plan to present to the Town Administrator.

Mr. Bennett reported on the Water & Sewer Commission reviewed past due water bills and the property foreclosure procedures.

Mr. Carron reported on the Community Preservation Committee which reviewed any outstanding grants by asking the parties to come before the committee with an update.



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Adjournment:

There being no further business before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Mark E. Carron

Secretary

Next Meeting:

Thursday, November 18, 2010 at 7:00in the Nauset room at the Town Office Building.

Handouts:

Ambulance Receipts Spreadsheet Local Receipts Spreadsheet

Future Agenda Topics:

- o Get detail on unfunded Retirement liabilities
- o Get details on unfunded Insurance liabilities
- o Invite Mark Budnick in to give report on expenditures
- o Invite Ken Hull in to review drop in valuation/fluctuation