

'11 SEP 23 11:16AM

K. Darling, Asst.
ORLEANS TOWN CLERK

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The August 25, 2011 meeting of the Orleans Finance Committee was convened by Chairman Ms. Gwen Holden Kelly at 7:00 p.m. in the Nauset Room of the Orleans Town Hall. Present constituting a quorum were Members, Mr. Larry Hayward (joining the meeting at 7:05), Mr. Rick Sigel, Mr. Mark Carron, Mr. John Hodgson, Mr. Paul Rooker and Vice Chair Mr. Dale Fuller. Mr. J. Fuller was present as Selectman liaison.

Guests:

None

Public Speak:

None

Approval of Minutes: :33 on Video Tape

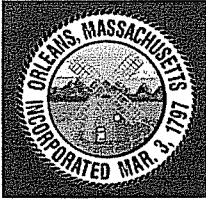
On a motion made by Mr. Carron, seconded by Mr. D. Fuller, the minutes of the July 14th Finance Committee meeting, as corrected were approved 6-0-0. On a motion made by Mr. Rooker, seconded by Mr. Carron, the minutes of the July 28th, Finance Committee meeting were approved 6-0-0

Update on FinCom meetings schedule, BoS meeting coverage and Town department/committee liaison assignments 1:50 on Video Tape

Ms. Holden Kelly discussed the meetings schedule through June 30 2012; all proposed meetings along with scheduled hearings are listed. The assignments for coverage of the BoS meetings through December were distributed, and Ms. Holden Kelly stated that the 2012 assignments would be prepared shortly. She also stated that she and Mr. D. Fuller would cover the general meetings during the "budget season" as has been done in the past. The department/committee liaison assignments, as amended with minor changes, were also discussed.

Joint Hearing on Budget Priorities 5:50 on Video Tape

The hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30. Ms. Holden Kelly referred to the FinCom and BoS minutes from last year's hearing as well as the minutes of our post meeting discussion which were sent to the committee in preparation for this year's hearing. She invited those viewing to attend and add their voices to the discussion. Mr. D. Fuller summarized the issues discussed during last year's hearing. There was a short discussion of the FinCom role in the meeting and it was emphasized that this was the time to hear (mostly) from the public. That said, it was agreed that we should raise



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questions that follow on from the public's comments, if appropriate. Further, we should keep the comments in mind during the budget process, and as part of our annual letter.

Mr. Carron asked if we had seen the amount of the turnback to Free Cash from the 2011 budget. We do have the final expense report which does not breakout the turnback, and while we expect it to be part of the presentation at the hearing, it was agreed to request an advance copy of the information to be discussed at the hearing. Mr. D. Fuller mentioned his analysis of the 2011 final expenses which he will share with the committee; he asked that we clarify all of the questions so that we do not ask unnecessary questions.

Update on the NRS Green Repair Initiative 17:33 on Video Tape

Ms. Holden Kelly reiterated that NRS has agreed to pay the full cost of special town meetings as well as the election costs. She discussed Dr. Hoffman's 8/3 presentation to the selectman responding to their questions, and reported on the 8/16 BoS meeting which resulted in a vote for a Special Town Meeting on 10/17 and an election on 10/25. The BoS has not as yet voted to support or reject the Initiative; there are a number of outstanding questions. The open questions include the difference in cost if the work is done outside the Green Repair Program grant standards, and how the grant would respond if the timeline was not met.

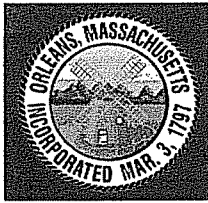
Mr. D. Fuller brought up the issues surrounding the contract towns and the need to work the project costs into future contracts. He mentioned that we need to find out the questions (and answers) generated by the other three towns, and urged everyone to watch the recording of the 8/16 BoS meeting; Ms. Fulcher asked that the BoS questions be given to her in writing and she will push for answers.

The committee discussed the problems raised by the absence of a formal NRS Capital Plan and how this will affect the voting procedures at town meetings.

Mr. D. Fuller reminded the committee that the grant procedure mandates that the full amount of the project be authorized by the towns, so the amount discussed in the Town Meeting and on the ballot will differ from the actual amount needed.

FinCom Future Agenda Topics Update 51:25 on Video Tape

Ms. Holden Kelly reviewed the status of the issues and requested meeting with D. Withrow discussed with Mr. Kelly in July, announced that Alan McLennan and the Open Space Committee will meet with us on September 8 to address the questions we raised.



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Issues and Projects Monitoring Report 53:00 on Video Tape

Ms. Holden Kelly discussed the issue of School Choice which came up at the latest Nauset School Committee meeting. We have been waiting for the promised study on the subject which we believed would be completed by the end of the school year, and were surprised to learn that the study had not been completed but will be “revitalized” during the current school year. We still feel the study is important and urged the committee to make it a priority and complete it. We will resubmit the list of questions we provided to the committee last year.

Mr. Hodgson reported on the note he received regarding the demolition and removal of the OES playscape which was done on the 16th and 17th of August. This was followed by a discussion of the need for a replacement playscape and how it should be paid for.

Mr. Sigel reviewed the August 24th hearing on the Coast to Coast Sidewalk project. About 60 people attended the hearing which included a PowerPoint presentation of the possible route and look of a completed walkway. About 90% of the attendees were Beach Road residents. The overall opinion delivered at the hearing was not to proceed.

Later in the meeting (84:00 on the video tape) Public Speak was reopened to allow Tom Finan to discuss his opinion of the hearing sentiment.

Other Business:

None

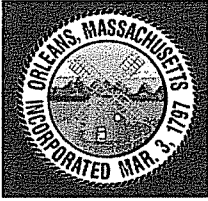
Boards, Committee and Department Reports: 79:48 on Video Tape

Affordable Housing: Mr. Hodgson announced the ongoing efforts to arrange financing to settle the deadlock on the Hinckley project.

Board of Selectmen Meeting: Ms. Holden Kelly read a summary of the report submitted by Mr. Weil.

Board of Health: Mr. D. Fuller reported on the upcoming Flu clinic to be held on September 23 at the COA.

Renewable Energy: Mr. Rooker questioned Ron Collins’ involvement with the Cape & Vineyard Electric Cooperative in light of his consulting agreement with Orleans which includes working on renewable energy issues. The committee discussed the relationship of CVEC with the Cape Light Compact and CVEC with Orleans and the NRSD.



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New Business: 98:47 on Video Tape

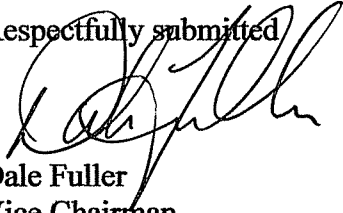
Mr. D. Fuller announced that the Annual Meeting of the Association of Town Finance Committees will be held in Franklin on Saturday, October 15.

Ms. Holden Kelly announced that the Orleans Citizens Forum has scheduled a meeting on October 4 at 6:30 at the OES cafeteria. The topic will cover Schools and Mr. Hodgson, along with Dr. Hoffman, Mr. Withrow and others will be on the panel.

Adjournment: 105:23 on Video Tape

There being no further business before the committee the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted


Dale Fuller
Vice Chairman

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, September 7 at 7:30 pm in the Nauset Room at the Town Office Building.