

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2005
Town Building
Approved July 26, 2005

The meeting was brought to order at 7:05 p.m. In attendance: Jason Robart, Brian Burke, Pam Glauner, David Walrath, Henry Hagopian, Tom Ryan and Patti Heron. Charlie Kern arrived at 7:25 p.m.

FY06 Departmental Budget Reviews:

Laura Greenough, Mike Busch and Tom Ruggiero were present to discuss the Recreation Commission budget.

- Jason Robart questioned the significant year-to-year carryover balances in the Revolving Fund. Laura Greenough noted that the balances have been decreasing for the past few years, and that the Rec. Commission tries to “do something for the town each year.” This year they hope to resurface the tennis courts (\$5K) and buy docks for the town beach (\$4K). She also mentioned that timing is an issue, and that they need a “safety net” to meet payroll and other expenses, even if revenues aren’t high (example, a cold summer at the town beach).
- Brian Burke noted that the Commission is coming closer to covering their expenses, and covering more items from the Revolving acct. than in the past (example—maint. person at town beach). The FinCom urged the Commission to provide better documentation for what the Revolving account is used for, instead of letting expenses fall into broad categories.
- Tom Ryan stated his opinion that the Commission should use the Revolving acct. to cover all expenses, and go to Town Meeting for other expenses like tennis court upgrades. Tom also questioned the 2006 Revolving account Revenue and Expense projections—why \$67K Revenue and only \$43K Expense? Rec. Commission members stated that this is an error, and that they would review the numbers.
- David Walrath questioned the use of the \$16K Municipal Grounds Expense in the expense budget. The Commission stated that this line item is used exclusively for lawn mowing and basic field maintenance such as grub control and re-seeding.

Tom Ryan made a motion to support the Recreation Commission budget, as recommended by the Town Administrator. It was seconded by David Walrath, and passed unanimously.

Other Business: Jason Robart will speak briefly on the financial impact of the warrant at the upcoming Candidate’s Night.

Tom Ryan noted that at this point there is no debt exclusion nor override amount to cover that proposed NRSD \$150K capital request. If Town Meeting votes favorably on these items, we will need to pay for them out of Free Cash.

Tom also noted that he does not support the \$10K definition of Capital in Article 31 (NRSD Agreement Amendment), because Ch. 70 allows for extraordinary repairs up to \$100K, and also because the towns would be bound by the NRSD estimate, even if actual costs were lower.

A motion to adjourn was made by Patti Heron and seconded by Jason Robart at 8:03 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Pamela Glauner.
May 1, 2005**