Minutes STOW FINANCE COMMITTEE January 23, 2007 Town Building

Call to Order

Charles Kern called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Present were, Pamela Glauner, James Salvie, David Walrath, Gary Bernklow, William Nelson and Elizabeth Tobey, Secretary.

Correspondence

- Randall Library Friends, winter 2007 newsletter.
- Notice of vacancy for a Finance Committee Member.

Approval of Minutes

Pamela Glauner moved to approve January 9, 2007 minutes as amended. David Walrath seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously – (Kern, Glauner and Walrath)

Review of Reserve Fund Transfer Requests

Independent "Fitness for duty" evaluation of an employee

The transfer request is for an employee that was treated for a medical condition and cleared to return to work by her physician. Her ability to perform her daily duties was questionable and the need to have a second opinion was determined by Mark Trefry.

Pamela Glauner moved to approve the reserve fund transfer request in the amount of \$3,850.00, for payment of a Fitness for duty evaluation. David Walrath seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously – (Kern, Glauner and Walrath)

Liaison Reports

<u>School Building Task Force</u> – Gary stated that the task force had a community meeting to discuss the criteria in place – Needs vs. Wants. Over 50 people were attended. They discussed the finance criteria, site selection and a few other items. They will have another meeting on Feb 26 with all the options in rough state presented. They will try to narrow it down to at least 2 or 3 rough drafts. March 12 will be the final selection of what will be put on the warrant.

<u>Nashoba Regional</u> – Pam stated that they will be presenting the budget on January 25th. There has not been an advance bottom number presented.

<u>Housing Partnership</u> – Jim stated that the Housing Partnership had emailed him their report. He will be meeting with them soon.

<u>Conservation Commission</u> – Jim stated that there was a hearing at the appeals court last week regarding the Cushing property. Town Counsel argued on behalf of the Conservation Commission and the town. It went very well. Three judges have to review the information. It seemed to be very balanced. The target is four months to get a decision out.

<u>Moderator</u> – Charlie stated that Ed Newman had asked him to talk to the Town Clerk regarding how Town Meetings are run regarding the audio and visual work.

Right now a lot of the work is done by volunteers with an array of borrowed equipment. The worry is that someday the volunteers and equipment won't be available. Ed asked for him to find out what it would take to regularize this? Right now it cost approximately \$5,000.00 to run a town meeting. We are currently getting the services of people and equipment to do this free. If we had to pay for all of that it would be an additional cost of \$1,500.00.

It was asked of the members if they had any ideas of what can be done down the road the Moderator would like to hear them.

There is a possibility that LACAC will loose some funds. If Verizon comes in Comcast may pull out the Local Channel.

If LACAC loses funding the General Operating Budget of the town may be asked to pick up the coordinators pay and purchase some equipment.

Community Preservation Committee -

Lake Boone Weed treatment - Dave stated that the CPC voted in principal but not actually a warrant article to forward an article for \$77,000.00 to pay for 2/3 with Hudson paying the other 1/3 to restart the weed treatments on Lake Boone.

Recreational Fields – CPC was asled to pay for 50% of a master plan to purchase recreational fields. They suggested going to the Recreation Committee and have them form a Master Plan sub committee to make the recommendations.

Other Business

<u>Discussion of the Public Hearing and Town Meeting Preparation</u> Charlie stated he would talk to Linda regarding the dates of the Public Hearing and Town Meeting to coordinate FinCom's dates.

Future Meetings

February 13, 2007 February 27, 2007 March 13, 2007 March 27, 2007 April 3, 2007 April 10, 2007 April 24, 2007 May 1⁻2007 May 7, 2007 Pre-TM

Adjournment A motion to adjourn was made by David Walrath at 8:30 pm. Pamela Glauner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously — (Kern, Walrath and Glauner)

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Tobey, Secretary