

Minutes
STOW FINANCE COMMITTEE
March 6, 2007
Town Building

Call to Order

Charles Kern called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. Present were, Pamela Glauner, Gary Bernklow, Henry Hagopian and Elizabeth Tobey, Secretary.

Guest Pamela Landry arrived at 7:35 PM.

David Walrath arrived at 7:39 PM

Guest Mike Clayton arrived at 7:50 PM

Guests Mark Trefry and Rachel Belanger arrived at 8:15 PM

Correspondence

- 10 copies of the Police Department revised budget
- Council on Aging newsletter for March 2007

Review of the Treasurer/Collector Budget

Charlie asked Pam Landry if there had been any big changes in her budget this year.

Pam Landry stated that she is requesting funds to purchase a large size shredder to be able to shred the confidential files that need to be sent to the trash.

The health insurance had dropped by \$19k.

Special articles had dropped due to the stabilization fund.

There was a brief discussion between Pam Landry and the members regarding how the town retirement benefits work.

Pam Landry exited 7:50 pm

Review of Reserve Fund Transfer Requests

Highway – Gasoline and Diesel Fuel Expense

The transfer request is for fuel for Highway, Police, Fire, Building Inspector, Animal Control, Council on Aging and the Cemetery in the amount of \$15,000.00

The expenditure is extraordinary and/or unforeseen due to the increase in fuel costs compared to previous fiscal years.

Pamela Glauner moved to approve \$15,000.00 Reserve Fund Transfer Request for diesel and gas fuel. David Walrath seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously. (Kern, Walrath, Glauner and Hagopian)

Review of the Highway Budget

Charlie asked Mike if there had been any big changes in his budget this year.

Mike stated that the wages went up 6%. There has been an increase in utilities of 6.6%, an increase in building and street repairs and maintenance.

The capital expense is for replacement of a 1987 truck with 200k miles. The body of the truck had been replaced in 1997. He is replacing it with the same model/type of truck

Mike also stated that labor is stable. He had turned 2 part time positions in to 1 full time position.

Mike stated that if gas prices keep going up he might be back next year again for a reserve fund transfer request again.

Mike Clayton exited at 8:00 PM

Approval of Minutes

David Walrath moved to approve February 27, 2007 minutes as amended. Pamela Glauner seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3 (Kern, Glauner, and Walrath)
1 (Hagopian)

Review of the Police Department Budget

Charlie asked Mark what the big changes were in the Police Department budget this year.

Mark stated that there were increases due to the Union contract. There was also a \$17k payment to a part time dispatcher 2 days per week. \$30k for funding of 2 out of 4 shifts that an office is out on medical leave from.

There is a Capital item for a new Police cruiser. He is not trading in the old cruiser. It will be saved for a back up vehicle.

Mark Trefry and Rachel Belanger exited at 8:52 PM

Review of other departments

Members briefly reviewed the Library, Council on Aging and the Selectmen.

Liaison Reports

No reports at this time

Other Business

David Walrath moved to submit to the Selectmen a request to create a warrant article to move the completed or abandoned article the stabilization fund. Pamela Glauner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Glauner and Hagopian).

Dave Walrath moved to put the warrant article on the warrant to move free cash to stabilization. Pamela Glauner seconded the motion.' The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Glauner and Hagopian)

Future Meetings

March 13, 2007 (Joint Boards with Selectmen, Minuteman presentation/review Assessors, Planning and Board of Health)

March 20, 2007 (Joint Boards with Selectmen, Capital Planning and SBTF)

March 27, 2007 (Review with Fire 7:30 Conservation 8:00, and CPC 8:30)

April 3, 2007

April 5, 2007 (Public Hearing followed by Finance Committee meeting)

April 10, 2007

April 24, 2007

May 1, 2007

May 7, 2007 (Pre-Town Meeting, Annual Town Meeting)

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by David Walrath at 9:46 pm. Henry Hagopian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously — (Kern, Walrath, Hagopian and Glauner)

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Tobey,
Secretary