

Minutes
STOW FINANCE COMMITTEE
September 09, 2008
7:30 PM
Town Building

Call to Order

Charles Kern called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm. Present were David Walrath, James Salvie, Gary Bernklow and Elizabeth Tobey, Secretary.

Correspondence

- The Beacon – Summer 2008 and September 2008
- Mass Municipal Association Directory
- Memo regarding Holiday Pay
- Notice of Vacancies for the Finance Committee – 1 member and 4 associates
- Memo regarding MIIA Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- Association of Town Finance Committee – Summer 2008
- Minuteman Regional School Committee Approved Tentative Assessments
- Association of Town Finance Committee 2008 Annual Meeting Notice

Meeting Minutes

James Salvie moved to approve July 15, 2008 minutes as Submitted. David Walrath seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Salvie and Walrath)

Reserve Fund Transfer Requests

There were no requests at this time

Liaison Reports

NRSD- Gary stated that they had been moved off of the Regionalization list and moved onto the invitation list. This invites Nashoba Regional School District to send proposals.

- The RFS for the owners project manager requested by the state has been put on hold by the MSBA.
- They are still shooting for 2010 construction time, if there is no word it may get push out to 2011.
- There is a possibility of no funds from the state.
- The committee is willing to go forward if the state says no funding.
- Bolton and Lancaster both signed the ICC on September 8th

Gary exited the meeting at 8:00pm

FIRE- Jim explained that the excess funds were due to the call fire fighting wages account, not from training. There were more calls than expected, more payroll was spent than expected.

CPC – Dave stated that the CPC is working on deed restrictions with some new requirements from the state. The administrator has to enter all of the information into the appropriate state program.

Discussion of Town Meeting and Finance Public Hearing

The budget process is working well; we know what's going on with the warrant articles.

Fincom is responsible to get the recommendations into the Town Clerk to enable her to get them to the printer 7 days after the public hearing.

- We need to get better organized and more information before the public hearing.
- More time is needed. Questions can't be answered about the warrant because we haven't seen it early enough for group review.
- The information is needed earlier for Fincom to review before Town Meeting.
- The public hearing needs to be made more relevant.
- There is not enough information soon enough or long enough for effective review before the public hearing.

- If there is not sufficient information we will be forced to vote no or offer no opinion due to insufficient information.
- The ability to get the warrant articles earlier could be resolved by the submitters sending a courtesy copy to Fincom
- Figuring out a shot and long term process for changes to the Warrant
- Possibly pull some special articles into the budget.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by David Walrath at 9:00 pm. James Salvie seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, and Salvie)

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Tobey,
Secretary