

Minutes  
**STOW FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
August 18, 2009  
7:30 PM  
Town Building  
Approved

**Call to Order**

Charles Kern called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm. Present were David Walrath, James Salvie, Gary Bernklow, Christopher Sarno, Ann Deluty and Elizabeth Tobey, Secretary.

Guests: Ross Perry and Mike McLaughlin

**Correspondence**

- Letter regarding concerns at Minuteman
- Flyer regarding the Stow Walkable Community Workgroup
- Flyer regarding the Coalition for Jobs and Growth
- Flyer regarding pneumonia shots for the younger population
- The Beacon Newsletter July 2009
- Association of Town Finance 2009 annual meeting
- Association of Town Finance newsletter July 2009
- Massachusetts Municipal 2009/2010 Directory

**Discussion with Mike McLaughlin re: The Sudbury Road Bridge Repair**

Chief McLaughlin explained that the Sudbury Road Bridger repair has caused him to have to seek alternate options to reach the Lake Boon area in emergencies. He has permission from Hudson to house a Stow Fire Apparatus at the Hudson Sub-Station. The Sub-Station is currently not used by Hudson and is very convenient for us to use. The risk factors in emergencies are increased if they have to travel from the Stow Fire House, around the lake through Hudson and come in the other side. The trip would take a good 15 minutes. In a cardiac case a 4 to 6 minute response is acceptable. With the bridge down it is imperative to have trucks closer.

The Highway Department is trying to get the bridge repaired sooner. It was originally scheduled to complete by the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September. They are now trying to get it done by the 29<sup>th</sup> of August. If all goes well they may be able to open it this Friday. If that happens the sub-station will only be needed one week rather than two weeks

The added expense to the budget from the Fire Department for One week would be \$6,900 and for 2 weeks \$13,000. Highway felt the state would pay for the added expense of the Sub-station but the state has said they will not pay for the medical service but will pay for the road repair.

The night shift for the Sub-Station will be paid on Per Diem rates. There are also two big events coming up, the Collins Foundation and the Lake Boon Festival.

Jim asked if it made more sense to have a warrant for the Town Meeting coming up in October. After a discussion the committee members agreed that it would be better if the FinCom approved an RFT for less than the total amount and when the Chief exhausted all of his funds, come back to the committee for the remaining unpaid balance.

Mike McLaughlin out at 8:05pm

**Reorganizing Fincom - Appointments**

Finance Committee Chairman

James Salvie moved to appoint Charles Kern as the Chairman of the Finance Committee for a term of one year. Gary Bernklow seconded the motion.

The motion carried for 3 (Walrath, Bernklow and Salvie)  
Abstained (Kern)

Finance Committee Vice-Chairman

James Salvie moved to appoint David Walrath as the Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee for a term of one year. Gary Bernklow seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Salvie and Bernklow)

### Capital Planning

David Walrath moved to appoint Ross Perry as the representative to Capital Planning for the Finance Committee for a term of one year. James Salvie seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Bernklow, Walrath and Salvie)

### Community Preservation

Gary Bernklow moved to appoint David Walrath as the representative to Community Preservation for the Finance Committee for a term of one year. James Salvie seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Salvie and Bernklow)

### Elementary School Building Committee

James Salvie moved to appoint Gary Bernklow as the representative to the Elementary School Building for the Finance Committee for a term of one year. David Walrath seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Salvie and Bernklow)

### **Meeting Minutes**

Gary Bernklow moved to approve June 30, 2009 minutes as amended. James Salvie seconded the motion.

The motion unanimous (Kern, Salvie, Bernklow and Walrath)

### **Reserve Fund Transfer Requests**

None at this time

### **Liaison Reports**

#### Gary – Elementary School Building Committee

They are drawing up plans for the one school solution. The PDF is available on the town website. The state is on board and wrote the warrant article for the ESBC, September 29<sup>th</sup> they will meet for approval.

The ESBC met with the Historical Society to talk about what to do with the stone building at Center School. They are ok with it being taken down, they would like to save the sundial and some of the stones to be used in the construction of the new school

The plans right now do not require the removal of the Blacksmith Shop, but it will eventually be removed.

It is estimated that the state is going to pay about 51%; they will not have a closer number until the MSBA comes up with a final number. It is contingent on the Town Meeting approving the article in October. If the town votes no they go back to the drawing board.

The core space is 670 students; this includes the cafeteria, gymnasium and the library. The classroom size is 670 students. The state will only pay for a certain amount of space. The current Center School gymnasium will be kept but turned into the music rooms.

Construction costs are a lot lower then previously estimated.

#### Dave – Community Preservation Committee

They are going to entertain a warrant article for purchasing some land and expanding Plantation Apartments.

CPC will require a warrant article to go forward as them putting up the money, but not supplied until target amounts are met. If passed by town the government will consider the site control.

The expansion of Pilot Grove is not on the priority list. They are worried there is not enough need for more apartments.

#### Chris – Minuteman Regional High School

The submission to the MSBA is moving forward. The transportation was cut 40%, This was a hard hit. Chris will be meeting with them in the next few weeks.

At the last Town Meeting the Stabilization Fund was created. The next step is to ask for funding. Chris will ask them at their next meeting what the funding plans are.

Chris – Highway Department

The roof on the Highway Barn is leaking. They have had to replace the sheet rock a number of times. The cost for repairs is estimated at \$13,000.

They are also in need of a new flagpole for the lower common; it has been repaired many times and needs to be replaced.

**Other Business**

Schedule the public hearing for September 17 at 7pm.

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by James Salvie at 9:18 pm. David Walrath seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Bernklow and Salvie).

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Tobey,  
Secretary