

Minutes
STOW FINANCE COMMITTEE
September 21, 2010
7:30 PM
Town Building
Approved

Call to Order

Chairman Gary Bernklow called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Present were,

Members: Christopher Sarno, Tom Ryan, Ann Deluty and Patricia Heron

Associates: Richard Connelly, Richard Rollins and Peter McManus

Secretary: Elizabeth Tobey

Guests: William Byron, David Walrath and Eric Sears (possible Associate), Susan McLaughlin

Correspondence

- Notice of the Association of Town Finance Committee's Annual meeting, October 23, 2010 agenda
- Minuteman Regional Voc Tech School Dist School Comm approved tentative assessments.
- Association of Town Finance, August 2010, Newsletter
- The Beacon Publication, Summer 2011, Sept 2010
- MEMO- PUSC regarding deadline for requests for space at the Pompo building when vacated

Meeting Minutes

After a review of the minutes Tom Ryan moved to approve July 27, 2010 minutes as Amended w/clarification of 724 from Chris. Patty Heron seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (Bernklow, Sarno, Deluty, Heron and Ryan)

Reserve Fund Transfer Request

POLICE/FIRE MEDICAL – Medical expense for disabled retired Stow police office - \$1,000.00

The amount requested is to be used for medical expenses for a disabled retired Stow police officer. \$400 FY11 budget, plus \$220 carryover from FY10 already exceeded by \$218.

Susan explained that in the mid 70's a police sergeant in the Town of Stow and was involved in a shooting at the shopping plaza and was injured. A special act of legislature allowed him to retire due to his injuries. There was a fund created for his eyeglasses. This year he has run into more expenses for his eyes and glasses. These are issues just related to his vision not all of his health issues and only out of pocket monies.

There was a brief discussion between the members and Susan regarding the possibility of putting it on the town warrant. Patty explained that she didn't feel it would be appropriate due to privacy to put it on the warrant for everyone to read. All members agreed.

Patricia Heron moved to approve the reserve fund transfer request in the amount of \$1,000.00 for payment of the medical expenses for a disabled retired Stow police officer, injured in the line of duty. Ann Deluty seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (Bernklow, Sarno, Deluty, Heron and Ryan)

Susan exited at 8:05pm

Liaison Reports

Community Preservation Committee (CPC)

Plantation- Peter stated that they have changed some language regarding the subdivision

Rail trail- Peter suggested that the town might have to pay most of the cost from White Pond Rd to Crows Island. It states in the deed, if paved it has to be paved the full usable width.

Murder House – Bill Byron commented that there is a letter that reports a façade restriction on the front and 2 sides . They cannot be altered. The letter has not been presented yet.

Master Plan

Rick Rollins– No final document approved as of yet.

Harvard Acres Water Meeting

Peter McManus – Most of the residents are in favor of putting in their money to keep the system going for 6 months. If bankruptcy is filed the water goes off and they will have nothing. They are trying to convince the widow not to go to bankruptcy court until they get their wells installed. The residents will pay the costs to keep the wells running, at an average cost of \$600, to pay for the operating expenses. The funds coming in now are barely meeting the expenses.

There was a discussion between members regarding the possible outcome of the water company. It was stated that whoever takes over the water company would have to take over the loan at \$1mil, plus the towns back taxes. The town doesn't want to take over a water system.

Elementary School Building Committee

Gary stated:

- Construction is moving forward
- Not be spending the extra \$5mil
- Not putting in 4 extra classrooms because student numbers are going down
- Recasting the budgets with the state because the bids came in so much lower than expected
- Contingencies are gone
- Have spent a little bit – there was a lot more ledge than was expected.
- MSBA toured on Monday 9/20/10, everything is ok.

Tom suggested that the ESBC should tell the people how much the state is sending and when they send it. Keep the public informed.

Gary agreed and said the ESBC would add that info to the monthly update in the Stow Independent.

Tom went over Levi Limits and Prop 21/2 Overrides with all members as a review for future reference.

Patty exited at 8:52

Other Business

Beth was asked to add a Training line item to the budget in the coming year for the Massachusetts Association of Finance.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Tom Ryan at 9:04 pm. Christopher Sarno seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (Bernklow, Sarno, Deluty and Ryan).

Action Items:

- Beth is to add training to Fincom Budget.

Future meetings:

Sept 28, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Tobey,
Secretary