

Minutes  
**STOW FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
October 12, 2010  
7:30 PM  
Town Building  
**Approved**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Gary Bernklow called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were,  
*Members:* Christopher Sarno, Tom Ryan, Patricia Heron and Ann Deluty  
*Associates:* Richard Rollins, Peter McManus, Eric Sears and Bruce Walbridge  
*Secretary:* Elizabeth Tobey

**Joint Boards Meeting with the Selectmen**

7:10pm Fincom opened the joint board meeting with the selectmen.

**Article 1-Acceptance of Anticipated Emergency Legislation from General Court**

Gary requested more definition of the article. Bill explained that the legislature had gone through 2 rounds of the House and the Senate and it is going to the Governor this week.

The objective is to ensure there is enough cash flow to pay Whitewater and keep it operational long enough for the residents to have their own wells drilled. There will be low interest loans to Harvard Acres Residents. It is a ten-year betterment loan, which will be billed with the property tax bill. Mr. Wrigley will be responsible for this program. To date 115 well permits have been issued.

On November 8<sup>th</sup> they accepted the special legislature. The payments will not be greater than what their monthly bill is now or be less than. We will owe nothing and we will not have anything to do with the cash assistance.

They stated that the agreement is still being worked out for the escrow account for disbursements. When it is signed the goal is to reach out and do the due diligence in the interest of the people.

When asked if there was a cap limit by Peter, Bill stated there is no dollar value, few exceptions, and minimum to maximum on average. It is straightforward management for the most part.

Chris asked if the legislation would be in the warrant. Bill stated that the writing is tricky in the agreement. Laura explained that they are taking an existing program and fitting it to our needs. The law requires that there be a governmental entity

**Article 2-Transfer and Authorization of Deerfield Lane Parcel**

Laura explained that this article is to provide the Selectmen the authority to negotiate with any entity that may want to become a water operator.

Conservation is supportive of this article. There are some regulatory issues to work out. Conservation can bring it back to Selectmen to manage. The obstacles can be overcome and managed.

Chris asked if we gave a lease would the lease have terms and conditions to protect our businesses and residents. Bill explained that we would clearly be able to set the provisions and terms of the contract i.e.; for a public water supply with 15 hookups, 25 houses served.

Gary asked if there is a restriction when you take it out of conservation do you have to make up for it somewhere else. The answer was, no.

**Article 3-Engineering Design Funds for Assabet River Rail Trail on Track Road**

Chris stated that the \$45k will be coming from the CPC funds. Laura explained that the work on the Rail Trail will be paid by TIP- the Transportation Improvement Plan.

#### **Article 4-Change in Hours for Serving Alcohol in Restaurants**

Susan explained the change in the law gives the Selectmen the option of approving the sale of alcoholic beverages in restaurants between the hours of 10am and 12pm on Sundays, the last day in May and on Christmas day or on the day following when said day occurs on Sunday.

The Selectmen had previously set it at 11am and they now need a vote at TM to have the option to change it to 10am.

Finance members exited the Selectmen meeting at 8:12pm and moved to the COA room on the Lower level.

#### **Correspondence**

None at this time

#### **Meeting Minutes**

After a review of the minutes Ann Deluty moved to approve September 28, 2010 minutes as Amended. Chris Sarno seconded the motion.

The motion carried       4 for (Bernklow, Sarno, Deluty, and Ryan)  
  1 abstained (Heron)

#### **Reserve Fund Transfer Request**

None at this time

#### **Special Town Meeting**

Gary went over the Public Hearing and the process with the new members. He explained that the members are there to listen to what the public has to say and not to explain the articles to them. Clarification is fine. Chris suggested that the public is informing us we are not informing them. Patti suggested setting a time limit on the questions.

#### **Liaison Reports**

##### Elementary School Building Committee

When they surveyed the wetlands between Hartley Road and Center School they calculated the area incorrectly. This will cost an additional \$42k.

The company that is removing the dirt bid \$16 a cubic yard and now wants \$34 a cubic yard because of the quality of the dirt.

##### Highway

Chris said that Highway Department is busy paving Boxboro Road

#### **Other Business**

None at this time

#### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Patricia Heron at 9:02 pm. Christopher Sarno seconded the motion.

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

#### **Action Items:**

Beth to print the Warrant Articles for the Public Hearing

#### **Future meetings:**

October 14, 2010 Public Hearing

October 19, 2010

October 26, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Tobey,  
Secretary