

Minutes  
**STOW FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
January 25, 2011  
7:30 PM  
Town Building  
**Approved**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Gary Bernklow called the meeting to order at 7:34pm. Present were,  
*Members:* Christopher Sarno, Peter McManus and Ann Deluty  
*Associates:* Richard Rollins, Eric Sears and Patricia Heron  
*Secretary:* Elizabeth Tobey

**Correspondence**

- Municipal Advocate Magazine

**Meeting Minutes**

After a review of the minutes Christopher Sarno moved to approve January 11, 2011 minutes as Amended. Peter McManus seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously (Bernklow, Sarno, Deluty and McManus)

**Reserve Fund Transfer Request**

None at this time

**Liaison Reports**

*Library-* Ann explained that the Library would be submitting a Reserve Fund Transfer Request in the near future for repairs.

*Minuteman* – Chris stated that Minuteman School Committee had unanimously approved the budget. They were able to cut their level services to keep the overall budget increase to about 1%. Stow assessment has gone up considerably to \$750k. This is largely based on enrollment increases; also Special Ed students went from zero to thirteen students. With \$5k added per Special Ed student enrolled, a total increase of \$60k. Last year the enrollment decreased substantially, causing a decrease in the budget. This year's budget is tight for the overall school.

In the past, Minuteman's tuition rates have been good for non-member towns. They have raised this significantly this year. They had cut the budget by 7% in the previous year, leaving very little room for additional movement.

Towns should gear up for the future for increases coming.

*ESBC* – Gary explained that the steel has been delivered and they have begun building the structure.

*CPC*– Peter stated that there will be no articles at May Town Meeting.

He also explained that the consensus of the committee and John Whitten is that neither project of Plantation and Pilot Grove will be going forward. Both projects were approved by the ZBA, with the abutters opposing Plantation. They want to purchase all of the property, split off the house and sell it. It is a decision they can't implement and buying the house was not approved at Town Meeting. They also do not have the funds to do it. They would have to amend the ZBA decision or go back to Town Meeting.

**Vote Vice-Chair**

Christopher Sarno nominated Ann Deluty as the Vice-chair. Peter McManus seconded the motion.  
The motion carried Unanimously. (Bernklow, Sarno, McManus and Deluty)

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Ann Deluty at 8:15 pm. Christopher Sarno seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (Bernklow, Sarno, Deluty and McManus).

**Action Items:**

Beth to Schedule Highway, Police and IT for budget reviews at the next meeting

**Future meetings:**

February 8, 2011

February 15, 2011

February 22, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Tobey,  
Secretary