

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

**Call to Order**

Chairman Ann Deluty called the meeting to order at 7:06pm. Present were,  
*Members:* Christopher Sarno, Richard Connelly, Peter McManus and Richard Rollins  
*Associates:* Bruce Walbridge  
*Secretary:* Elizabeth Tobey  
Guest: Dean Carvaretta, Karen Kelleher, and Ernie Dodd

**Discussion with Planning, regarding Article 15 – Zoning bylaw amendment –Commercial Solar Photovoltaic Renewable Energy Installations**

Karen explained that the board is in favor of renewable energy. There is currently a company looking at a site in town. Planning needs to have the guidelines in place before they approach the board. The bylaw is based on state bylaws. They will be allowable by site, with a commercial and Industrial special permit, residential, conservation and business. The setback will be in the regulations. There is currently someone interested in a 20-acre site in Stow.

Chris commented that Stow is largely residential, most large sites in Stow are agricultural. Karen explained that some towns have them on town land. When asked if they would get advantageous tax rates, Karen remarked that there is a big push now for tax incentives. Stow is not eligible to become a green community because of Hudson Light and Power. The Planning board is working on changing that.

Chris commented that a change in tax rate would affect the farms. A special permit needs a super majority vote.

Peter questioned where Stow stands now, with no control? The intended Bylaw is to promote while regulating. There are no over riding concerns from the Planning Board. It is not grandfathered because they already had a hearing.

When asked how many towns have this in process, Karen didn't have the number off hand but commented that there are a few. With the push for green communities a lot have done it recently.

Chris commented that he is uncomfortable with the residential and commercial in the description. They probably didn't need to include residential. The motivation for doing it is to promote green by special permit.

Chris Sarno moved to recommend approval of: A-13 Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Commercial Solar Photovoltaic Renewable Energy Installations. Richard Rollins seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously (Deluty, Sarno, Rollins, Connelly and McManus)

Chris will discuss the article at Town Meeting.

**Correspondence**

- Email dated October 16, 2011 from Peter McManus regarding canceling the grant from CPC of \$100,000 and to remove the article from the warrant for Town Meeting
- Letter dated October 25, 2011 from David Walrath appointing Dean Cavaretta as an Associate member.
- Notice of the Flu Clinic on November 5, 2011 at Hale School from 10am to 2pm.
- Notice of the S.T.O.W.S. work session on November 02, 2011 at Town Building.

**Meeting Minutes**

After a review of the minutes Rick Rollins moved to approve October 6, 2011 Public Hearing minutes as amended. Christopher Sarno seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously for (Deluty, Sarno, Rollins, McManus and Connelly).

After a review of the minutes Rick Connelly moved to approve October 11, 2011 minutes as amended. Christopher Sarno seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously for (Deluty, Sarno, Rollins, McManus and Connelly).

**Reserve Fund Transfer Requests**

None at this time

**Liaison Reports**

CPC - Peter McManus

A vote was taken to rescind the warrant article to move the Stone Building. Lew Halprin had requested that they withdraw the article for the lack of funds.

Minuteman – Chris Sarno

They have certified their enrollment with MSBA and capital planning is going forward. They have really tight deadlines for Spring Town Meeting. All 16 towns have to agree to the changes. Enrollment costs: Nashoba, 12k-13k per child and Minuteman, 25k-26k per child.

When asked if enrollment drives the regional agreement, Chris explained that it is approved by participating towns and fluctuates by enrollment.

**Other Business**

None at this time

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Peter McManus at 8:15pm. Richard Connelly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (Deluty, Sarno, Connelly, McManus and Rollins)

Future meetings:

November 07, 2011 Pre-Town Meeting

November 07, 2011 Town Meeting

November 22, 2011

Action Items:

None at this time

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Tobey,  
Secretary