

Minutes
STOW FINANCE COMMITTEE
Public Hearing
April 12, 2012
7:00 PM
Town Building
Approved

Call to Order

Ann Deluty called the Public Hearing to order at 7:05 pm. Present were, Members: Christopher Sarno, Richard Rollins and Peter McManus. Elizabeth Tobey, Secretary.

Ann explained the process of the public hearing and asked that the public wait until the article is read before asking questions.

Article 1. Reports of Selectmen and other officers and committees

No questions from the public

Article 2. Reports of special committees

No questions from the public

Article 3. Wage And Salary Schedules for Fiscal Year 2013

David Walrath asked if anyone was checking the numbers for errors. Ann Deluty explained that they have.

Article 4. General Budget For Fiscal Year 2013

Ann explained that the income was \$24,749,043 and the expenditures are \$23,578,221.66. There is a budget surplus of \$2,282,317.61. The bottom line is still good. Dave Walrath requested that a member should give an explanation of the elimination of a line item at town meeting.

Article 5. Reserve Fund

Ann stated that this is the standard \$70,000 each year.

Article 6. Audit Of Financial Records

No questions from the public

Christopher Sarno moved to read only the titles of the Articles, Richard Rollins seconded the motion, the motion Carried unanimously for (Deluty, Sarno, Rollins and McManus)

Article 7. Revolving Fund for Inspection Fees

No questions from the public

Article 8. Revolving Fund for Advanced Life Support Services

No questions from the public

Article 9. Transfer To Conservation Fund – Land Maintenance

No questions from the public

Article 10. Transfer From Wetlands Protection Fund

No questions from the public

Article 11. Update Of Property Valuations

No questions from the public

Article 12. Town Records Binding And Repair

No questions from the public

Article 13. Highway Road Machinery And Private Ways

No questions from the public

Article 14. Highway Road Construction

No questions from the public

Article 15. Federal Safe Drinking Water Act

No questions from the public

Article 16. Household Hazardous Waste Collection

No questions from the public

Article 17. Public Health Nurse

No questions from the public

Article 18. Municipal Solid Waste Disposal

No questions from the public

Article 19. Medical Reserve Corps Expenses

No questions from the public

Article 20. Construction and Maintenance of Water Holes for Firefighting Operations

No questions from the public

Article 21. Stow Cultural Council

No questions from the public

Article 22. Employee Educational Incentive Program

No questions from the public

Article 23. Legal Services

No questions from the public

Article 24. Police Officer and Firefighter Medical Payments

No questions from the public

Article 25. Weights and Measures Testing

No questions from the public

Article 26. Swiftreach 911 Notification System

No questions from the public

Article 27. Lake Boone Water Quality Remediation

No questions from the public

Article 28. Veterans' Benefits

No questions from the public

Article 29. Community Preservation Expenses

No questions from the public

Article 30. Community Preservation Reserves:

No questions from the public

Article 31. Capital Requests

1. **Building – Handrails for Hale School Auditorium - \$12,000**
No questions from the public
2. **Building – Town Hall Exterior Painting and Repairs - \$50,000**
No questions from the public
3. **Cemetery – Mowing Equipment - \$14,200**
No questions from the public
4. **Fire-Rescue – Computer Network Upgrade - \$23,150**
No questions from the public
5. **Fire-Rescue – Police/Fire Radio Tower - \$27, 830.**
No questions from the public
6. **Highway Department – ¾ Ton Pick-up Truck - \$40,000**
No questions from the public
7. **Highway – Brush Chipper - \$60,000**
No questions from the public
8. **Planning Board – Large-format Scanner/Plotter/Copier-\$13,000**
No questions from the public
9. **Police – Cruiser - \$40,000**
No questions from the public
10. **NRSD – Hale school Classroom Air Conditioning - \$145,000**
No questions from the public
Members requested this be held for more information for Town Meeting. Christopher Sarno recused himself from the discussion.
11. **NRSD – Well Building Roof Repairs- \$12,000**
No questions from the public

Article 32. Nashoba Regional High School Athletic Facilities

No questions from the public

Article 33. Historic Document Preservation Project, Part One

No questions from the public

Members had a brief discussion on what is considered historic

Article 34. Consultant For Stow Municipal Affordable Housing Trust

Ann explained that there are not a lot of funds and they are hoping to attract funds.

Article 35. Planning Board Engineering/Consulting and Master Plan Expenses

No questions from the public

Article 36. Purchase or Assisted Listening Devices

No questions from the public

Article 37. Purchase of Thermal Imaging Camera

No questions from the public

Article 38. Purchase of Automated Electronic Defibrillators

No questions from the public

Article 39. Holiday Decorations And Lighting

No questions from the public

Article 40. Internet Access of Assessment Roads

No questions from the public

Article 41. Zoning Board of Appeals Legal Fund

No questions from the public

Article 42. Tax Title Foreclosure

No questions from the public

Article 43. Transfer from Harvard Acres Well Loan Receipts

No questions from the public

Article 44. Senior Tax Relief

No questions from the public

Article 45. Syncarpha Solar, LLC Tax Agreement

REMOVED- hold for Town Meeting

Article 46. Kearsarge Solar, LLC Tax Agreement

REMOVED- hold for Town Meeting

Article 47. Crescent Farm Conservation Restriction Extinguishment

No questions from the public

Article 48. Minuteman Regional School District Amended Assessment for Fiscal Year 2012

Alice Deluca explained that they will probably reduce the amount by \$5,000. They must revote Stow's assessment for FY12 which will increase \$36k. All 16 towns have to vote to pass this. This money was for redoing the trades' hall which was deemed in violation of codes.

Dave Walrath commented that this is the reason that Minuteman should have a stabilization fund.

Article 49. Accept Public Access Deed for Arbor Glen Active Adult Neighborhood (AAN)

REMOVED

Article 50. Transfer from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund+

No questions from the public

Article 51. Balance the Fiscal Year 2013 Budget

No questions from the public

Article 52. Town Election

Public hearing was closed at 7:36pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Tobey,
Secretary