

**Minutes
Finance Committee
February 25, 2014
Final**

Call to Order

Chairman Peter McManus called the meeting to order at 7:20pm at the Joint Boards with the Town Administrator and the Selectmen.

Members: Bruce Walbridge, Richard Rollins and Richard Eckel
Associate:

Members moved to the COA room @ 8pm for budget reviews

Reserve Fund Transfer Requests:

None at this time

Correspondence

- None at this time.

Review of Minutes

After a review of the minutes Bruce Walbridge moved to approve January 14, 2014 minutes as amended. Peter McManus seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (McManus, Walbridge, Rollins and Eckel).

Budget Reviews

Kathy Sferra explained that there was a reduction in the budget due to an employee retiring causing a reduction in long Gevity.

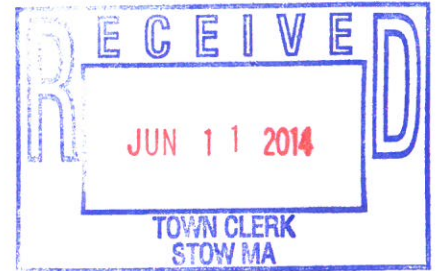
Special article – The Conservation Land Management is spending \$20k this year.

Overview of the department

- Permitting for walking in conservation areas.
- Large increase in work lately.
- Handle 1500 acres in Stow.
- Boundary postings.
- Created a Facebook page with maps and other info to use.
- Community outreach.
- Educating residents about conservation.
- Conservation Trust is a separate non-profit.
- Pay services for mowing
- Try to maintain fund around \$50k

Trail Maintenance

- Trim back trees and bushes.
- Take down trees when needed.
- Highway helps pickup large trash.
- Fill holes on Block Road.
- Land Manager, \$5k this year.
- \$10k in Conservation Fund created in the 60's.
- Gain Revenue from: leasing garden plots, Trail Guides in the past.



Other Business

On February 26, 2014 the Finance Committee voted to allow deficit spending in the snow and ice account pursuant to MGL C. 44, s, 31D.

The vote carried as follows:

Richard Rollins moved to approve deficit spending in the snow and ice account pursuant to MGL C.44, s, 31D.

Richard Eckel seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (McManus, Rollins, Walbridge and Eckel)

Liaison Reports

Library

The Library has a better proposal for restoring the upstairs;

- They are replacing light fixtures.
- CPA included the ability to restore with their funds.
- They are planning a walk through.
- \$15k- \$30k to of CPC funds to use upstairs for adults, providing a quieter area and more programming.
- Wants more storage built.
- Take out the old kitchen that is not used and add a slop sink for clean ups.
- The town would benefit from the changes.

Fire

- The Fire Chief is fine with Pompo or the 323 Great Rd properties.
- Needs 13k sq. ft. of Pompo space.
- Without Library \$8.6mil for Fire and Community Center.

Nashoba

Regional meeting is Thursday the 26th. Bruce will attend Bruce was approached by Jim Salvie to see if Stow could send one representative and rotate coverage. Bruce feels he should always attend to make sure FinCom has all the info needed.

Review of Minutes

After a review of the minutes Peter McManus moved to approve January 28, 2014 minutes as amended. Peter McManus seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (McManus, Walbridge, Rollins and Eckel).

Other Business

Capital Projects

- \$150k-Highway for a snow plow
- \$150k-Police for repair of HVAC
- \$161k-School district
- \$65k -Fire for breathing apparatuses.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Rick Rollins at 8:00pm. Bruce Walbridge seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously, (Walbridge, McManus, Rollins and Eckel).

Respectfully,



Elizabeth A. Tobey,
Administrative Assistant