

**Town of Sturbridge
Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2014**

Attendees: Kevin Smith (KS), Prescott Arndt (SA), Bob Jepson (BJ), Kathy Neal (KN), Mike Serio (MS), Arnold Wilson (AW)

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall.

SA made motion to approve Article 27 – Acceptance of Tannery Road as written; seconded by KN. So voted, 6 – 0.

SA made motion to approve Article 28 – Acceptance of Turner Lane as written; seconded by KN. So voted, 6 – 0.

BJ made motion to approve Article 29 – Wind Energy Facilities as written; seconded by AW. So voted, 4 – 2.

AW made motion to approve Article 30 – Sewer Abatement Legislation as written; seconded by KN. So voted, 6 – 0.

MS made motion to approve Article 31 – DPW Collective Bargaining Agreement as written; seconded by BJ. So voted, 6 – 0.

SA made motion to approve Article 32 – Purchase Front-End Loader as written; seconded by KN. So voted, 6 – 0.

SA made motion to approve Article 33 – Replace Police Department Garage Floor as written; seconded by BJ. So voted, 6 – 0.

SA made motion to approve Article 34 – Fire Department Accounts as written; seconded by AW. So voted, 6 – 0.

SA made motion to approve Article 35 – Unpaid FY13 Bills as written; seconded by BJ. So voted, 6 – 0.

BJ made motion to approve Article 36 – Unpaid FY13 Sewer Bills as written; seconded by KN. So voted, 6 – 0.

SA made a motion on Article 37 – Stabilization Fund to see if the Town will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$475,000) to the stabilization fund; seconded by AW. So voted, 6 – 0.

SA made motion to approve Article 38 – Board of Health Transfer as written; seconded by KN. So voted, 6 – 0.

During New Business, KS discussed meeting logistics for the coming budget season. The season will kick-off with the Saturday budget meeting on March 1. There will be no meetings during the following week so that liaisons can meet with their respective department heads. KS will put together a schedule of meetings with target dates. AW mentioned he had all of the budget information for Burgess and Tantasqua. Currently, Burgess is seeking a 4% budget increase which is primarily due to a new bus run; Tantasqua is seeking a 3% budget increase.

During Old Business, KS mentioned that he still has not had the opportunity to hire a clerk. He will need to meet with the Town Administrator to have him take over the task.

Motion made to adjourn at 7:58 PM by MS; seconded by KN. So voted, 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Smith