

Townsend Finance Committee
272 Main Street
Townsend, Ma., 01469

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Agenda/Minutes
January 26, 2017
Meeting Room 2
6:00P.M.

I. Preliminaries:

- 1.1 Call to Order - Lynn called the meeting to Order at 6:11 P.M. in meeting room2, Memorial Hall.
- 1.2 Roll Call - Mark Hussey, Sam Grant, Lynn Pinkerton and Andrea Wood were present; Tom Whittier and Jerrilyn Bozicas were absent
- 1.3 Additions or Deletions - none
- 1.4 Minutes, 12/5/2016 - Mark moved to accept the minutes as submitted, seconded by Andrea the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion

II. Meeting Business:

- 2.1 Review the Town Report report - The report was reviewed and it was agreed to take out the phrase “of those people” at the beginning of the second paragraph and the rest is acceptable. Mark move to delete the phrase “of those people” and to accept the rest of the report as submitted, seconded by Andrea, the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.
- 2.2 Mail
 - 2.2.1 DLS update (email)
 - 2.2.2 Budget Projection Meeting Cancelation (email)
 - 2.2.3 City and Town (email)

III. Adjournment: Mark moved to adjourn at 6:34 P.M., seconded by Andrea, the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Finance Committee Report

Due to the time consuming effort needed to correct the problems left by the previous Tax Collector/Treasurer the budget process got off to a slow and late start. To help organize and speed up the budget review process the Town Administrator organized a Financial Team which included Mr. Donald Klein, Chairman of the Finance Committee. The budget was pulled together in record time. The Budget was reviewed by the Selectmen and the Finance Committee and a joint meeting was held by the Board of Selectmen at which both entities reviewed and exchanged ideas regarding the Budget and the Articles to be presented at Town Meeting. After discussion, agreement was reached on the figures to be presented.

After the Annual Town Meeting the Finance Committee experienced two (2) major changes. The term's of two (2) members expired, one (1) sought reappointment while the other did not, then before appointments could be made three (3) members of the standing Committee decided to resign which left the Committee very short of members. The Moderator asked the two (2) members whose term's had expired if they would continue (as the Law allows) until new members could be found. The Moderator appointed Sue Lisio to fill one (1) term and the other term was filled by reappointment, but the Committee was still short three members. In reviewing the appointment process the Moderator and Town Counsel decided that the Charter allowed the Finance Committee to appoint members if a midterm resignation occurred (previously this section of the Charter was thought to be in conflict with the Town Bylaws) so the openings were posted and the public responded well and soon we had a fully staffed Committee.

We would like to thank the Town Accountant Terry Walsh and the new Tax Collector/Treasurer Barbara Tierney and their staffs Lee O'Brien and Rebecca Hersey for working so hard to resolve the old problems while keeping up with their day to day business and making reports to help us all understand the situation.

The Finance Committee

Lynn Pinkerton Chairman, Jerrilyn Bozicas Vice Chairman, Andrea Wood Clerk, Sam Grant, Sue Lisio, Tom Whittier and Mark Hussey members