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Board of Selectmen

Town of Apton



Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2009

Location: Fire & EMS Headquarters, 20 Church Street

Present: Selectman Kenneth E. Picard and Selectman Michael E. Goodwin. (Chairman Robert J. Fleming and Administrative Clerk Karen L. Varney did not attend this meeting).

The meeting was called to order at 7:15pm.

The Finance Committee discussed at length the advantages and disadvantages of having two Debt exclusions, outside the levee limit, override ballot questions / Annual Town Meeting Articles (Station Street Pumping Station \$240k and Main St water mains \$100k) versus having one general override, increasing the levee limit, ballot question / ATM article for \$650k. The scope of this discussion included: the new Town Manager position, new Fire Chief position, DPW director, and COA director positions; A wage freeze for all Town (union and nonunion) employees; using override money only for capital items and not operating expenses; and putting appropriated funds into a stabilization account.

The Finance Committee was surprised that the BoS desired to fund a Town Manager and new Fire Chief Positions. They understand the need not the timing. The Fin-Com would like more information from the BoS and hopes the BoS is prepared to handle questions from the ATM floor. The Fin-Com understands the BoS position about the DPW Director and the COA Director that not filling these positions is a short term measure and not a change in management structure. This was stated by me, but I am not sure if they heard correctly.

- The Fin-Com will support one general override for \$650k with appropriations going to general stabilization and the understanding operating budget is level funded, which includes a wage freeze.
- The Fin-Com will support a Town Manager and New Fire Chief, the BoS needs to refine the wage amount changes and clarify/explain the efficiencies with the change in management structure.
- The Fin-Com requested that two debt articles be put at the end of the ATM warrant for the pump station and water mains as backup with respect to the general override

With respect to the STM article #3 DPW overtime the Fin-Com wants more detailed information to justified the requested amount.

44 With respect to the STM article #2 prior year funds some Fin-Con members has concerns about
45 transferring the BVT inspection account.

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47 The BoS closed their meeting at 10:45pm.

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49 Respectfully submitted,
50 Kenneth E. Picard, Member

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