

# Town of Uxbridge, Massachusetts Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: October 5, 2010

Place: Selectmen's Meeting Room

Present:

Peter DeMers	A	Mark Andrews	P	Howard Fortner	P
Christine Horwath	P	Ed Maharay	P	John Morawski	P
Ray Wright	A				

1. Call to Order: 7:00 PM  
Christine Horwath chaired the meeting.

## 2. Minutes

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To amend the minutes of September 29, 2010 to include specific questions asked by Mr. Fortner regarding the high school project.				
1st	HF	2nd	MA	Vote	2-2-1

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To accept the minutes of September 29, 2010 as amended with the addition of "who" after Chief Freitas in item #5a New Business, Police Station building review.				
1st	CH	2nd	MA	Vote	3-1-1

## 3. Fall Annual Town Meeting

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To open the public hearing on the warrant for the Fall Annual Town Meeting				
1st	MA	2nd	EM	Vote	4-0-1

Article 1 - Transfer of unexpended unencumbered fund balance to Water Enterprise fund  
This article calls for the transfer of \$22,023 which came to the town in a legal settlement regarding the contamination of ground water from gasoline containing MTBE.

Article 2 - Transfer of unexpended unencumbered fund balance to PEG Cable Access fund  
This article calls for the transfer of funds that came to the town from Charter Communications contract. This has been a standard transfer. The town has sought clarity from the Department of Revenue on the proper use of the funds but has not received any judgment on the issue.

Article 7 – Purchase of a new rescue apparatus

This article calls for the transfer of \$300,000 for a new fire engine, which will replace Engine #5. Fire Chief Ostroskey indicated the apparatus would be lighter than the current engine and would be used for quick responses to incidents like motor vehicle accidents on Rt. 146. David Genereux, Finance Director, indicated the new apparatus would be paid through a 10 debt service starting in FY12.

Article 3 - Transfer to stabilization

This article calls for the transfer of the Unexpended Unencumbered Fund Balance (the fund formerly known as Free Cash) to the Stabilization account, after the transfers made in Articles 1 and 2. This is a standard article. The amount of the transfer won't be known until the Department of Revenue certifies the town's FY10 year end numbers.

Article 8 – Acceptance of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5 (54)

This article requests the acceptance of a section of MGL which allows a city or town to establish a minimum fair cash value for personal property tax accounts. The article wants to establish the minimum valuation at \$1,000, as the costs associated with committing, mailing, and posting payments for low value account may exceed the amount being collected.

Article 9 – Borrowing Rescission; balance of high school land authorization

This article calls for the town to rescind the borrowing in the amount of \$260. The rescission will bring the authorized borrowing in line with the actual money paid for the property.

Article 10 – Acceptance of land donation – Old Elmdale Road

This article authorizes the Board of Selectmen to accept a deed in lieu of tax foreclosure. The property has been in tax title since 1999. The amount due is \$4,662.75. The acceptance of MGL Chapter 60, Section 77C allows the title to be transferred to the town without the town undertaking costly and time-consuming Land Court foreclosure process.

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To continue the public hearing for the Fall annual meeting on October 19, 2010				
1st	EM	2nd	MA	Vote	5-0-0

Recommendations on the warrant articles

The committee's recommendations were deferred pending clarification about the proper procedures for voting recommendations. Mr. Morawski, citing a previous conversation he had with the Worcester County District Attorney's Office, raised concern about voting our recommendations prior to the closure of the public hearing. Since the purpose of the public hearing is to give citizens the chance to voice opinions and to help the committee in its decision making process, voting our recommendations prior to the close of the hearing would imply that we don't need (or want) any further input.

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To seek clarification from the Town Manager and Attorney General's Office, if need be, for proper voting procedures of recommendations for public hearings				
1st	EM	2nd	MA	Vote	5-0-0

4. Old Business

- a. Charter Review – Three members of the original Charter Committee indicated they would be willing to serve on the Charter Review.

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

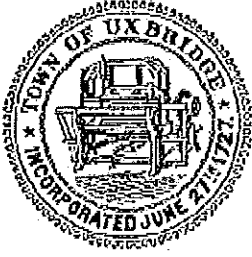
Motion	To appoint Barbara Hall and Peter Emerick as the Finance Committee's two representatives to the Charter Review Committee.				
1st	HF	2nd	MA	Vote	4-0-0

5. New Business  
None




6. Adjournment (Next Meeting October 19, 2010)

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	Adjourn meeting at 8:45 PM				
1st	JM	2nd	MA	Vote	5-0-0



# Finance Committee Approval Sheet

Name	Signature	Date
Peter DeMers		
Mark Andrews		10/26/10
Howard Fortner		10/26/10
Christine Horwath		10/26/10
Ed Maharay		
John Morawski		
Ray Wright		