

Town of Uxbridge, Massachusetts Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: December 21, 2010

Place: Board of Selectman Room

Present:

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

1. Call to Order: 7:00 PM

2. Minutes

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To accept the minutes of November 3, 2010.				
1st	CH	2nd	HF	Vote	4-0-1

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To accept the minutes of November 16, 2010.				
1st	RW	2nd	HF	Vote	4-0-1

3. Uxbridge Public School

Mr. Ernie Esposito joined the committee in its review of the operating budget for the schools.

a. FY11 budget

In response to questions from the committee, Mr. Esposito said the school department and school committee had a "good handle" on the FY11 budget.

b. Revolving funds

The committee reviewed a summary of the school's revolving fund (as of 12/12/10). With the exception of School Lunch, all of the funds showed a positive balance. Mr. Esposito was questioned about the large balance in Kindergarten Day Program (\$242,321). Specifically he was asked for the funds were targeted for? Mr. Esposito didn't have an immediate answer and said he would get back to committee's chair on this question. Mr. Esposito said that the School Choice Receiving (\$305,875) was used to pay for 1) the tuition for students going to Norfolk Aggie, 2) a secretary in the central office and 3) copier costs.

c. New high school operating costs

Mr. Maharay asked that this item be placed on the agenda, as the cost for the operating the new school needed to be funded in FY13 budget. The expectation was

that students returning to the Uxbridge would help to pay for the school's operating cost. Mr. Esposito said that the school department would be contributing \$170,000 to the cost of running the new school. These funds came from monies the department currently spent on leased space. He also felt that the town would see a 10% drop in School Choice Out. Mr. Maharay expressed the hope that these funds would not be used in FY12 to offset problems in what promises to be a difficult budget. Mr. Genereux stated that any positive change in School Choice Out should be directed to funding 1) the cost the new school then 2) the town's capital needs.

d. High school project

Mr. Maharay, who is also a member of the School Building Committee, gave a brief report on building project. The key issue for the project remains what will be funded within the \$43M budget set by the MSBA. The athletic fields are the major elements at risk. The specifics of what will (and won't) be funded will be known in late January when the bids come in for the project. Mr. Maharay advised the committee that it should get an update on the project in February.

4. Financial Reports

Mr. Genereux reviewed the FY11 financial reports through September 2010. Mr. DeMers asked if there was anything to be worried about with the FY11 budget. Mr. Genereux said the department managers were managing the budget and, so far, no one had indicated there was a problem with the budget.

5. November Borrowing

The town closed on its \$20M borrowing for the new high school on November 24, 2010. The borrowing will cost \$305.97 to the average single family home (assessed at \$291,400). In response to Mr. Fortner's question, Mr. Genereux said the town would be fully caught up with the reimbursement from the MSBA with the next rounds of bills.

6. FY12 Budget

Mr. Genereux believed that the state's financial problems will cause a cut in state aid to the town of \$867,856. He also said that health insurance costs are projected to increase 15% to 17%. The Finance Director said health care costs represented \$4M, or 15%, of the town's budget. The department heads would soon be getting their guidelines for the FY12 budget, which factored in these elements into the calculations. Both the Town Manager and Finance Director said FY12 would be difficult year.

7. Old Business

a. Police Station Energy Audit

The committee chair will be meeting with the police chief on the audit, and topic will be brought up as an agenda item at a subsequent meeting.

b. Town Accountant

The Town Manager said an offer would probably be made on the position immediate after the holidays.

8. New Business

a. Charter Review

Mr. Szlosek indicated that no action had been taken on review.

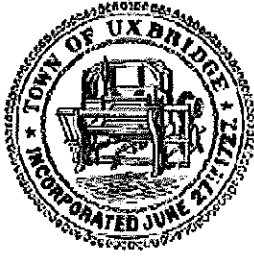
a. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the committee will be the third week of January. The chair will determine the day – either Tuesday or Wednesday – depending on the availability of the meeting rooms.

9. Adjournment

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To adjourn meeting at 9:00 pm.				
1 st	EM	2 nd	CH	Vote	5-0-0



Finance Committee Approval Sheet

Name	Signature	Date
Peter DeMers	<i>P. DeMers</i>	03/09/2011
Mark Andrews		
Howard Fortner		
Christine Horwath	<i>Christine Horwath</i>	3/9/11
Ed Maharay		
John Morawski		
Ray Wright	<i>Ray Wright</i>	3/9/11