



Town of Uxbridge, Massachusetts Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Date:

April 5, 2011

Place:

Board of Selectmen Room

Present:

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

^{*}Mr. Maharay participated in the meeting via Skype in a non-voting role.

1. Call to Order:

7:00 PM

2. Minutes: The Chairman asked if any Committee members had comments or questions on the Meeting Minutes of March 9th or March 22nd. There were no comments or questions from the Committee.

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To approve the Minutes from the meeting of March 9th.				
1 st	JМ	2 nd	MA	Vote	4-0-1

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To approve the Minutes from the meeting of March 22 nd .				
1 st	JM	2 nd	MA	Vote	4-0-1

After the vote had been taken on the March Meeting Minutes, Mr. Fortner expressed concern with regard to the approval of the Meeting Minutes from December 21, 2010, relative to compliance with the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law. Mr. Fortner stated that he would follow up with the office of the Massachusetts Attorney General by providing a DVD and his grievance.

3. Public Hearing for the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant:

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To open the Public Hearing on the Articles of the Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant.				
1 st	MA	2 nd	RW	Vote	4-1-0

The Finance Committee heard reviews of the following Articles on the Warrant for the Spring Annual Town Meeting for the purpose of gathering information prior to making

recommendations on the Warrant for Town Meeting; the presentations and discussions were for the purpose of gathering information. No opinions were rendered, and no recommendations were made at this meeting on any of these topics:

Article 1, Reports: The Uxbridge Town Finance Director, Mr. David Genereux, spoke to this annually recurring Article on which no Committee vote is needed.

Article 4, Town Budget as it pertains to the Department of Public Works: Mr. Genereux and the Director of the DPW, Mr. Benn Sherman, spoke to this Article. Line items 411-Engineering, which contributes to the Director's salary; 421-DPW Admin., 422-Highway construction and maintenance; 423- Snow and ice; 450 – Water; 435- Landfill; and 440-Sewer were all part of the discussion. Line item 650- Parks are included in this line item with savings coming from Grounds Keeping Tools.

Article 6, Wastewater Department Budget (Enterprise Fund): Mr. Sherman noted that the town is in year 12 of a five year permit from the EPA. Chemical expenses have come down. The town may be told at some point in the near future to expand the treatment plant. A study will be done.

Article 7, Water Department Budget (Enterprise Fund): The wells are being overused on Blackstone St. With Rosenfeld coming on-line, the town may be able to shut down one on Blackstone St. The Operations Manager from the Water Department joined this discussion.

Mr. Genereux offered a general note on the 2012 Town Budget, which is that it includes no salary increases for municipal employees funded by the general fund.

Article 18, Street Acceptance—Glen Street and Lee Street. Jason Geshelin came to speak on behalf of this article and answer questions from the Committee. Mr. Sherman and Mr. Genereux also answered questions from the Committee. An unresolved issue with regard to a bank still exists and my not be resolved prior to Spring Annual Town Meeting.

Article 19, Street Acceptance—Anthony's Way Article 20, Street Acceptance—Giacomo Way Article 21, Street Acceptance—Anthony's Way and Giacomo Way

The Board of Selectmen has sponsored Articles 19 and 20. The citizen residents have sponsored Article 21 in the event the Board of Selectmen did not submit Articles 19 and 20. According to Attorney Rob Knapik the two-street development known as "Cedar Woods", if Articles 19 and 20 are accepted, Article 21 will be passed over. According to Mr. Sherman, the town has taken the cash bond for this development, finished work on the plans needed for acceptance, but Giacomo Way still needs to be inspected for its pavement.

Article 10, Borrowing Authorization – New Front End Loader Article 11, Borrowing Authorization – New Combination Dump Truck Article 12, Funding a New Water Enterprise Capital Account from Surplus Water Enterprise Capital Funds

Mr. Genereux spoke to these articles to authorize the purchase of two new town vehicles. Even though the town seeks authorization for both, in all likelihood, the town's budget can

only support the purchase of one; even so, Mr. Genereux would like the town to authorize the second so that when it is feasible, the town can take action.

As for Article 12, a recent town project was completed under budget, and money is sitting in an account for this project. To use it, the town needs to approve the "re-purposing" of the funds. Mr. Fortner asked that an explanation be provided in the commentary, and Mr. Genereux said that one would be provided.

Article 14, Acceptance of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 56 Relative to National Guard Members and Military Reservists Deployed Outside the U.S.

Mr. Genereux remarked that this is a pretty straight-forward Article.

Article 15, Acceptance of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 57 Relative to Seniors Eligible for State Circuit Breaker Tax Credit.

Mr. Genereux remarked that this Article is somewhat more complicated than the previous one. To summarize the conundrum, seniors who qualify for the State Circuit Breaker may apply for town consideration for tax relief, as well. If granted, the Clause 57 consideration may disqualify seniors from the State Circuit Breaker tax credit in the subsequent year, which would in turn disqualify such seniors from Clause 57 consideration by the town for the following year. Approximately 160 Seniors from Uxbridge qualified for the State Circuit Breaker last year.

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion		To continue the Public Hearing at the Finance Committee Meeting scheduled for April 12, 2011.			
1 st	MA	2 nd	JM	Vote	5-0-0

4. Old Business:

None.

5. New Business:

None.

6. Adjournment:

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To adjourn mee	ting.			
1 st	MA	2 nd	JМ	Vote	5-0-0



Finance Committee Approval Sheet

Name	Signature	Date
Peter DeMers	Phom	14/13/2011
Mark Andrews	Madella	04/13/2011
Howard Fortner		1/13/2011
Christine Horwath		
Ed Maharay		
John Morawski	Dryous	4/3/2011
Ray Wright	13/12/1	4/13/2011