

Town of Uxbridge, Massachusetts Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

SEP 7 11 AM 6:54

Date: June 7, 2011

Place: Board of Selectmen Room

Present:

Peter DeMers	P	Mark Andrews	P	Howard Fortner	P
Christine Horwath	P	John Morawski	L	Open position	n/a
Open position	n/a				

Call to Order: 7:00 PM

Prior to moving to tonight's agenda, the Chairman, Mr. DeMers, acknowledged the service of Mr. Ed Mahary to the town of Uxbridge as a long-standing member and former Chairman of the Finance Committee. Subsequent to his election as Town Moderator, Mr. Mahary has resigned from his elected position on the Finance Committee.

1. Minutes

a. April 6, 2011

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To accept the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of April, 6, 2011.				
1 st	CH	2 nd	HF	Vote	3-0-1

Discussion: No discussion on the minutes.

b. April 27, 2011

Because these minutes had already been approved at a previous meeting, no motion was made on this agenda item.

c. May 10, 2011

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To accept the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of May 10, 2011.				
1 st	CH	2 nd	MA	Vote	3-1-0

Discussion: Mr. Fortner asked for the date of the public hearing where the Finance Committee discussed Article 22 on the Warrant for the 2011 Spring Annual Town Meeting.

While the answer was not given immediately, the Committee was assured that it had been discussed. (The date of this discussion, April 26, 2011, was given later in the meeting.)

2. Committee Reorganization

Discussion: As of this meeting, the Finance Committee has two open seats. The Committee decided that rather than vote tonight on reorganization, waiting until the Committee was fully staffed made more sense. No action was taken on Committee Reorganization.

3. Vacant Finance Committee position

a. Discuss appointment process

As of tonight, the Finance Committee has two open positions:

1. Mr. Maharay resigned from his elected seat to serve as Town Moderator. Because this is an elected seat that has been vacated, the seat will be filled by appointment until the next, regularly scheduled town election. Essentially, the person appointed to this seat will serve for one year, 2011-2012.

2. The term of the seat formerly held by Mr. Ray Wright, who had been appointed to the seat, expired after the recent election, and no appointment has yet been made. The person appointed to this seat will serve for three years, 2011-2014.

Mr. DeMers would like to schedule a meeting to discuss candidates with the Board of Selectmen within the next two weeks. Interested citizens should contact Tracey Ante. Mr. Fortner suggested that citizens, who have shown an interest in service to the town by running for office in the past, ought to be given consideration and that this ought to be done by the end of June.

(Mr. Morawski joined the meeting at this point.)

Mr. Fortner pointed out to the Committee that page 4 of the 2010 Annual Town Report inaccurately states, "Each year the Moderator designates the seat to be elected per Charter". Mrs. Horwath recommended that the error ought to be submitted to the office of the Town Manager.

4. Special Town Meeting

a. Discuss warrant and schedule public hearing dates for proposed June 23, 2011 Special Town Meeting

Discussion: The Warrant closes at 2:30 pm on June 9, 2011. In lieu of an actual Warrant, Mr. DeMers presented what was thought to be included on the Warrant, which was a question on adding \$5 million to the Uxbridge High School Building Project and potentially a question on restrictions for solar energy. Mr. Fortner expressed several concerns about the process and wanted to see detailed information on how the \$5 million figure came about and why this is the right figure so that the process need not be repeated.

Mr. DeMers would like to hold two meetings for public hearings. The first will be on June 9th in order to satisfy the 14-day timing requirements for this process. The second meeting will be held on the June 15th alongside the meeting of the School Building Committee. Mrs. Horwath asked if the School Building Committee would be addressing the Finance Committee, and Mr. DeMers will try to arrange this. Mr. Andrews recommends that the various Committees and Boards in Town work together to meet all deadlines.

The Town Finance Director, David Genereux, informed the Committee that he would send four debt schedules in advance of the next meeting. Mr. Fortner shared with the Committee that he had asked the Board of Selectmen if the Massachusetts School Building Authority would release the cost/reimbursement cap of \$43 million. While no documentation seems to exist, the Town assumes that all liability for additional costs will fall on the Town.

5. Reserve Fund Transfer

- a. Finance Director will discuss possible FY2011 RFT requests

Mr. Genereux informed the Committee that there may be a few small requests for transfers, most for small variations in salary. Mr. Genereux said that while Massachusetts General Law allowed for the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee to concur in authorizing variations of \$5,000 or 3% of budget, his preference is to do Reserve Fund Transfers, which are more transparent. The Town should have about \$36,000 in this account, as of the May report.

6. Reports

Mr. Genereux reported that as of the April report, Uxbridge had spent or encumbered 79% of budget. Revenues are on par, and expenses are on budget; there will probably be very little free cash at the end of the fiscal year. Mrs. Horwath asked about school transport, and Mr. Genereux assured her that since this is done by Purchase Order, this item cannot be overspent.

7. Old Business

Citing the Finance Committee's votes of "No recommendations without prejudice" on Warrant Articles pertaining to street acceptances at the Spring Annual Town Meeting, Mr. Fortner suggested that the Finance Committee educate itself for matters on which it is required to address for the Town.

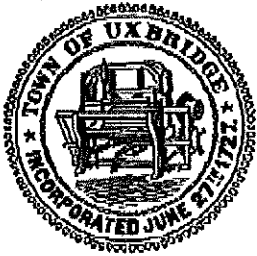
8. New Business

The Town Assessor gave notice of her intent to resign two weeks ago. The position has been posted.

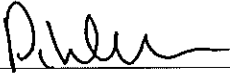

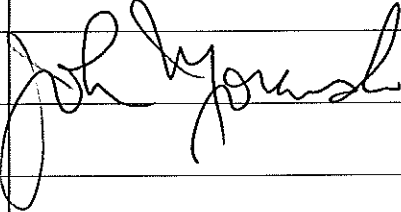
9. Adjournment

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To adjourn meeting at 8:15 pm.				
1 st	MA	2 nd	JM	Vote	5-0-0



Finance Committee Approval Sheet

Name	Signature	Date
Peter DeMers		06/23/2011
Mark Andrews		
Howard Fortner		6-23-11
Christine Horwath		
John Morawski		6/23/11