

Town of Uxbridge, Massachusetts Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: April 11, 2012

Place: Lower Town Hall

Present:

Christine Horwath	P	Mark Andrews	P	Howard Fortner	P
Peter DeMers	P	John Morawski	P	Ray Wright	P
Maureen Kearnan	A				

Call to Order: 7:00 PM

1. Hearings –Spring Annual Town Meeting Warrant

- Library

Jane Granatino represented the Uxbridge Free Public Library and informed the Finance Committee on the many ways it serves the Town of Uxbridge. Foot traffic has increased from 5,053 visitors per month in 2010 to 5,463 visitors per month in 2011. Reference requests have increased from 140 per month to 202, and the library now provides home delivery through Friends of the Library. Last year, the library held 139 programs with over 1,000 attendees.

After budget cuts in 2009, the library has required waivers in order to continue participating in a library consortium through which it can share resources with libraries of other communities. Massachusetts General Law mandates that unless a library is funded at its budget average for the past three years plus an additional 2.5%, it must request a waiver to participate in the consortium. Without this waiver, interlibrary loans would take months rather than weeks, some libraries would not loan to a de-certified library, and the library would not be eligible for state aid funds, which normally run between \$5,000 and \$10,000. This year, the Uxbridge Free Public Library would like to apply for LSTA Grants, Federal grants overseen by the State, and a Worcester Community Foundation Grant in order to provide laptop computers.

The library budget includes a supplemental budget, and if approved, the library would be in compliance with amounts prescribed by Massachusetts General Law, and a waiver would not be necessary, as the library could be certified.

Mrs. Granatino answered questions from the Committee, and citizens in attendance were offered the opportunity to participate.

- DPW – Articles 4-Budget, 8-Wastewater Enterprise, 9-Water Enterprise, 13-Water Dept Purchase, 14-Salt Shed

The Director of the Department of Public Works, Benn Sherman, discussed the aforementioned Articles and the budget of the DPW. Mr. Sherman addressed salaries, equipment repairs, equipment replacements needed, and the various components to his FY2013 budget. In summarizing how budget constraints have affected the department's ability to maintain its resources and plan for improvements, Mr. Sherman informed the Committee that the department has had to become highly reactive in everything it does.

Mr. Sherman presented the rationale behind the aforementioned Articles and answered questions from the Committee. Citizens in attendance were offered the opportunity to participate in the hearing.

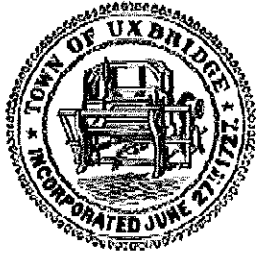
- Senior Center

Marsha Petrillo, Director of the Council on Aging/ Senior Center presented the budget of the Senior Center and answered questions from the Committee. Citizens in attendance were offered the opportunity to participate in the hearing.

2. Adjournment

Motion/Second/Discussion Vote

Motion	To adjourn.				
1 st	JM	2 nd	MA	Vote	6-0-0



Finance Committee Approval Sheet

April 11, 2012

Name	Signature	Date
Christine Horwath		5/8/12
Mark Andrews		5/8/12
Howard Fortner		
Peter DeMers		
John Morawski		5/8/12
Ray Wright		5/8/12
Maureen Kearnan		