



# TOWN OF WAYLAND

41 COCHITUATE ROAD  
WAYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS 01778

Finance Committee  
John Bladon  
Cherry C. Karlson  
Dave Gutschenritter  
Robert L. Lentz  
Sam H. Peper  
Susan W. Pope  
Richard M. Stack

## Finance Committee Meeting Minutes January 26, 2009

The meeting was called at 7:06PM in the Wayland Town Building.

**Attendance:** S Peper, R. Stack, S. Pope, J. Bladon, C. Karlson, Bob Lentz,

**Absent:** D. Gutschenritter

**Also present:** Finance Director/Town Accountant, M. DiPietro

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Motion:** Approved Minutes of 1/20/09. Vote: 6-0

### 2010 budget hearings:

- **Town Clerk:** Lois Tombs discussed budget. Purchases essentially flat except for \$600 training expense for new assistant.
  - **Elections:** Reductions in salary expense for '10 of \$15,400 are due to no presidential elections expense as compared to '09.
  - **Registrar:** The contractual services increase as compared to '09 (\$600) are due to required census expenses.
- **Selectman's Budgets** - Fred Turkington gave an overview of the Selectman's departmental budgets.
  - **Selectman:** The unfavorable purchase of services variance of \$3.3K as compared to '09 is caused by an increase in dues expense for town administration.
  - **Town Office:** Non salary expenses are flat as compared to '09; headcount is the same.
  - **Personnel Board:** Expenses are flat as compared to '09.
  - **Finance Committee:** No expenses are budgeted.
  - **Finance:** Purchases are essentially flat except for training expense for new accountant (\$1.4K).
  - **Treasurer:** Purchases are essentially flat except for increase in postage/ mailing expenses (\$0.5K).
  - **Town Counsel:** '10 budget is in line with '09 actuals, but almost \$100K lower than '08 due to reduced reliance on outside legal during labor negotiations.
  - **Information Technology:** Expenses are flat as compared to '09.
  - **Planning:** Expenses are flat as compared to '09.

- **Surface Water Quality:** Expenses are flat as compared to '09.
- **Police:** Police Chief Irving reviewed his current headcount and projected requirements for 2010. There are 21 on force, one in the academy and the Chief is requesting an additional new position as compared to '09. The chief commented that his fuel card program and the transition to Dodge Chargers, which get better gas mileage than a Ford Crown Victoria, has helped limit increases in fuel expense.
- **Joint Communications:** The favorable variance in purchase of services (\$126K) is primarily due to a budget transfer of utilities expense to the facilities budget.
- **Emergency Management:** Expenses are flat as compared to '09.
  - Discussion was held on the need for a replacement ambulance. The requested ambulance will replace a back-up ambulance which is 10 years old. The current front line ambulance which is 5 years old will be transitioned as the back-up ambulance. The ambulance will run about \$210,000 plus \$30,000 for equipment for the new ALS program. New ambulance software is budgeted at \$30,000.
  - Ambulance billings are expected to be on target with '09.
- **Building & Zoning:** Expenses are flat as compared to '09.
- **Council on Aging:** Expenses are flat as compared to '09.
- **Facilities:** Expenses are flat as compared to '09 except for utilities. John Moynihan discussed how this new centralized budget will allow the town to centralize ordering, invoice management and approval with intent to leverage and reduce costs.
  - Discussion was held on the capital request for building repairs, painting, wire and cable for town building IT, generator needs and energy system needs. John's request for a generator for town building was taken under advisement, but the Finance Committee suggested that alternative approaches (rentals/leasing etc) be investigated.
  - Discussion also occurred around the modular classroom request for the high school. John felt that early estimates up to \$350K could be reduced to \$300K given the market.
- **Emergency Management - Advanced Life Support** – Fire Chief Bob Loomer and Captain Vinny Smith reviewed the proposal to add an Advanced Life Support program to Emergency Management. ALS is a second tier system of pre-hospital care and is comprised of paramedics who travel to the site of an emergency. The ALS paramedics are called only when the patient's symptoms suggest a potentially life-threatening condition - possible heart attack, unconsciousness, stroke or major trauma such as resulting from an automobile accident.

A paramedic receives many hours of training in advanced life support and is qualified, under the direction of a physician, to perform certain invasive procedures, which are usually performed only in a hospital's emergency department. It would cost Wayland \$10,000-\$14,000 to train a paramedic, so hiring contract workers is preferred, especially during a pilot program.

This Wayland pilot program would be funded initially for one year and would require the upgrade of a truck, and the hiring of contract paramedics to service the town and also other neighboring towns as a contracted service. Wayland is currently serviced for ALS by Emerson Hospital and AMR, but Emerson also services 13 other towns so Wayland, so this program will increase service to Wayland during morning and early afternoon, when most emergency calls occur.

- The Finance Committee discussed the potential impact on budgets with pending state aid cuts. Current estimated cuts are \$115 for FY09 and \$350K for FY10. The \$350K breaks down to \$245K for the Schools and \$105K for the town.
- Mike DiPietro and Sam also agreed to follow-up/ clarify with the schools on their utility, janitorial and custodial budgets.

**Adjourn:** MOTION made and seconded; the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Richard Stack