



# Town of Wayland Massachusetts

## **Finance Committee**

Nancy Funkhouser  
Thomas Greenaway (Chair)  
David J. Gutschenritter  
Cherry C. Karlson  
Gil Wolin  
Carol Martin  
Bill Steinberg

## **Finance Committee Meeting Minutes January 9, 2014**

Attendance: B. Steinberg, C. Karlson, D. Gutschenritter, C. Martin, T. Greenaway (Chair), G. Wolin, N. Funkhouser, B. Keveny.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm in the Selectman's Room. Tom Greenaway indicated the meeting was being recorded.

### **1. Public Comment/Response to Comment –**

Becky Stannizzi of the EDC indicated she would be bringing a warrant article to ATM for the River's Edge project and wanted to get on FinComm's agenda to discuss some changes to the plans related to setback, density, and revenue projections. We suggested that she return sometime in early February to discuss the changes.

### **2. Capital Budgets:**

#### **Conservation:**

##### **Heard Pond Parking Lot Upgrades:**

Brian Monahan and Andy Irwin, 73 Plain Road & Chair of Conservation Commission spoke. Included in the budget is a request to fund parking lot upgrades at Heard Pond which just came up. Brian mentioned that Don Oullette mentioned that he might be able to tackle the project jointly with some of his budget money.

##### **Land Acquisition:**

Plain Road land acquisition last year did not happen. The CPC has authorized \$150K for a three parcel purchase as proposed on Forty Acres Drive. They are currently assessed as non-buildable lots. B. Steinberg inquired why we would acquire if they couldn't be developed and Andy explained that the best way to have final say over the land is to own it. The parcels are attractive because they represent the only frontage for Pine Brook Conservation on a public road. Looking ahead, the appraisal should be received in 3-4 weeks. We asked for the date of the CPC vote and the vote count.

##### **Status of Dam Repairs:**

At this point, the dam needs are a safety issue. Temporary fixes have been completed to date but

they are waiting on design work to be completed. The design process for a project like this is highly intensive because the work has to be specified in great detail or the bidding process becomes difficult and that is why it is taking so long. Currently they are putting together the scope of the work and engineering plans should be received by June 2014. We asked them for a status of last year's approved capital spending, a revised CIP and summary of proposed spending for 2016, 2017 and 2018.

#### **Minuteman/Health Insurance:**

Brian Keveny reported that the Minuteman Appropriation this year is \$199,000 versus \$212,000 last year.

Health Insurance is expected to increase 7-8% roughly.

#### **Schools**

C. Karlson indicated that 3 CIPs will be forthcoming for the HH paving, MS courtyard windows and IT in outer years. None of them have an impact on the 2015 budget.

#### **Fire**

V. Smith, Fire Chief described the plans for the chassis and cabs of two trucks which will result in utilizing equipment with remaining life and replacing outdated and worn equipment with new purchases. Old equipment will be salvaged where possible.

With respect to the need for a rescue boat, they will purchase one boat.

#### **Information Technology**

Leisha Simon, IT Director

Discussion ensued about the proposed Document Management System which will basically replace paper documents with digital versions, in an indexed and more easily retrievable fashion. In terms of long term spending, there are no further plans confirmed. The network structure is okay; the data centers are okay but may need more storage. And although the Town and Schools IT budgets are separate, their purchasing power is joint. Leisha is scheduled to join the SC for their operating budget presentation later this month.

#### **DPW**

Don Ouellette reported on the following:

- Route 27/30 intersection approved for construction in 2016 will cost \$180M for final design and easements. Responsibility for construction is the state's, the water main and the drainage is the town's.

Further discussion ensued regarding the HH pump station, Reeves Hill Security Fence, cemetery expansion, transfer station upgrade, highway paving, Pemberton water pipe, water mains on Boston Post Road and Pine brook, River Road upgrade, among others.

### **3. Other Committee Discussion:**

Dave Gutschenritter reported that the OPEB Committee is considering three motions that would include the following:

- 1) Transfer money from the Enterprise Fund to the General Fund in amounts TBD to cover 2008-2012 catchup payments. In the analysis, one fund is short amounts needed, one fund is just short of the funds needed, and the third fund has enough but it is unclear what balance should be maintained. The committee is studying the capacity of the funds, the intent and willingness to fund, and the methodology used to determine funding amounts.

2) Listing each of the seven revolving/enterprise funds with a dollar amount (ie to transfer X\$ to fund a contribution to OPEB Fund for FY15).

3) Contribute a sum of money from the Town's budget to OPEB to cover the town's obligation.

C. Karlson inquired on the timing of whether the third motion numbers would be available by the time FinComm reviews the OPEB article so that it could be included in our discussion about budgeting needs, etc.

**4. Topics for future meetings:**

Assessors/Overlay

B. Keveny indicated he will be talking to the Assessor's office about a release of overlay.

T. Greenaway asked if we could get it before we release the budget to the warrant.

**5. Chair's Update:**

The Chair described the following articles expected for submission at ATM; OPEB, DPW Road, Land Acquisition, Library, Rivers Edge, WHA-CPA, Unitarian Church.

In addition there was discussion about the meeting schedule and a decision was made to cover the Town's Operating budget over two meetings next week on Mon. and Thursday.

**6. Minutes**

Motion was made by C. Karlson to approve minutes of 12/9/13 as amended; C. Martin seconded the motion and the vote was 6-0 in support.

Motion was made by B. Steinberg to approve minutes of 11/6/13; G. Wolin seconded the motion and the vote was 5-0 in support. (C. Karlson abstained)

Discussion of the 11/4/13 minutes was deferred to a later date.

Motion was made by C. Martin to approve minutes of 12/16/13; D. Gutschenritter seconded the motion and the vote was 7-0 in support.

**7. Adjournment:**

Bill Steinberg made a motion to adjourn and C. Martin seconded it; the vote was unanimous to adjourn at 10:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Funkhouser