

Advisory Finance Committee
Minutes of Meeting
21 & 22 October 2013

Approved:
December 2, 2013

Location: High School Auditorium

Members present:

Ed Behn, Chair
Gary Wells
John Arnold
Hank Rauch
Jim Tepper
Sharon Kaiser
Lisa Blazejewski
Kathy Rosenblum Senie
Peter Allen (arrived 8pm)

Members absent:

Mr. Behn called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Open Forum

Ian Johnson, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen informed the committee that they were going to move to pass over Article 5 for tonight's meeting. The Board of Selectmen have decided that they need a master plan for the former State Hospital property and that they'd like to keep the focus on acquiring the property first.

Sue Abladian from the Senior Center met with the Advisory Finance Committee. She is concerned about losing their full time custodian. She said the custodian set up and put away tables and chairs a few times a day for meals and various social activities. Ms. Abladian said that the custodian's duties also included vacuuming floors and cleaning up food and beverage spills that could cause someone to slip and fall. She is worried about liability issues by not having a custodian on hand during the day and doesn't feel the town will end up saving any money by contracting out the cleaning services. Ms. Abladian pointed out that during the winter months the custodian would salt, sand, and shovel around the entrance/exit. She doesn't feel that the Buildings & Grounds Department will be able to manage these duties, while also handling other responsibilities in town. Ms. Abladian was asked if the Buildings & Grounds Department worked with the Council on Aging staff to come up with a job description and she said she didn't think that was done. It was suggested to Ms. Abladian that in the future the Council on Aging should meet with the AFC about any articles that affect the Senior Center prior to Town Meeting so there can be a more thorough discussion.

Special Town Meeting began at 7pm. Mr. Behn suggested that the AFC stay in session until the end of the meeting and resume Tuesday evening at 7:30pm.

Mr. Behn made a motion that the AFC recommend passing over Article 5. The vote was 8-0-0 with 8 being present.

The Committee re-voted its recommendation on the items in Article 10 related to the DPW Manager's salary. Mr. Wells made a motion that the Committee recommend DPW Salary and Wages in the amount of \$2,358, Water Salary and Wages in the amount of \$2,288, and Sewer

Salary and Wages in the amount of \$2,288. The vote on the motion was 0 in favor, 7 opposed, and 1 abstaining with 8 being present.

On Article 28 the Committee voted 8-0-1 in favor of the Article with 9 being present.

Tuesday, October 22, 2013

Mr. Wells moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:35pm. Motion to adjourn was 8-0-0 in favor with 8 being present.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Thomas
AFC Administrative Assistant