

FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

June 16, 2008

Regular meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Monday, June 16, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Finance Committee Room, Town Hall with the following members present: T. Jalkut, S. Connell, M. Hickey, S. Kelliher, M. Boragine, M. Kent, T. Bowen, L. Donovan, C. Lane, M. Barry, J. Stadtler Also in attendance was Town Administrator M. Boynton.

7:30 p.m. – Quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by the Chairman T. Jalkut.

Reserve Fund Transfer – R. Stillman, Police Chief

Chief Stillman explained that he is requesting a Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount of \$5,000 for gasoline. This line item has substantially increased due to the market prices for gasoline. This request has been approved by the Board of Selectmen. He is confident that due to other adjustments in other line items that he has made, that this is the only one he will need. Officers travel approximately 70 miles per shift and the department is the number one gas user in town. Gas prices have spiked dramatically, and the only other option is to shut down the cruisers and that is not feasible.

MOTION MADE by T. Bowen, Seconded by S. Connell to approve a Reserve Fund Transfer for Police Department – Expenses (gasoline), Motion Approved, Unanimous (11-0-0) (11 voting)

Chief Stillman spoke to not anticipating having to come back before the Committee by the end of this fiscal year but feels, if he did it would only \$2,000 - \$3,000.

It was noted by the Committee members that a lot of departments are attempting to cut back and make adjustments on their budgets.

Reserve Fund/Budget Transfer Authorization

Committee usually grants permission for the Chairman or Vice-Chairman to approve Reserve Fund Transfers or Budget Transfers up to the amount of \$5,000 for the ending of the current fiscal year.

MOTION MADE by T. Bowen, Seconded by S. Kelliher to grant the Finance Committee Chairman or Vice-Chairman authorization to approve any Reserve Fund Transfers or Budget Transfers from Expenses to Salaries or Salaries to Expenses up to the

amount of \$5,000 for the period ending July 11, 2008, Motion Approved Unanimous (11-0-0) (11 voting)

Town Administrator

Mr. Boynton explained that Town Accountant is reviewing the budgets and they appear to be alright at this point, but they are taking another look at fuel costs. Revenues vs projections items are off but he doesn't anticipate any deficit. Building Inspector fees are way down, interest income is on target, motor vehicle excise is off. Real Estate taxes are down, which is attributed to the times. Departments are attempting to conserve fuel, minimizing trips and trying to be careful.

Lifeguard staffing – Board of Health will not waive the staffing in place for lifeguards, presently it is one lifeguard per 20 swimmers, state requirement is one lifeguard per 25 swimmer. Board of Health does not feel that the requirements should change

Deputy Building Inspector has been in a serious motorcycle accident and will be out of work a long time. Department is evaluating staffing needs, some residential inspections are down, and it is hoped that the Toll Brothers development picks up. There are plans for a development at Sunnyrock Farms that will be presented to the Selectmen shortly.

EDIC -Legislation has been filed with State and will be going through the legislation process but Town Administrator anticipates it will take awhile before the legislation passes. Selectmen are beginning the process of obtaining names for the committee.

School Department – School Superintendent L. Lynch is going to receive a new vehicle in lieu of receiving a car allowance. School Department presently has two other vehicles. School Department is not required to go through Capital Budget Committee process but Municipal Departments have to go through the Capital Budget for all capital expenditures

Finance Committee Reappointments – Mr. Boynton has spoken with the Moderator and suggested that any members that their terms are up and are interested in being reappointed to get in touch with the Town Moderator.

Override – There might possibly be an Override on the November ballot for the new library and there is talk that the Planning Board might also put on an article for the adoption of the Community Preservation Act.

Minutes

MOTION MADE by S. Connell, Seconded by M. Boragine to approve the May 1, 2008 Minutes, Motion Approved (8-0-3) (S. Kelliher, M. Berry and J. Stadtler abstained) (11 voting)

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MOTION MADE by S. Connell, Seconded by M. Boragine to approve the May 5, 2008 Minutes, Motion Approved (6-5-0) (L. Donovan, M. Barry, J. Stadler, M. Hickey and S. Kelliher abstained) (11 voting)

8:15 p.m. – Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Clare P. Abril
Secretary