

FINANCE COMMITTEE

2/14/13

Minutes

February 7, 2013

Regular meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Thursday, February 7, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the Senior Center, Town Hall with the following members present: L. Pitman, J Burke, M. Kent, D. DiCenso, M. Iwanowicz, P. Hinton, J. McDermott, D. Bruce, T. Williams and D. Crowley. Also in attendance was Town Administrator M. Boynton, Assistant Town Administrator J. Johnson and Town Accountant J. Cuneo

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

Unemployment and Casualty Insurance Budgets

Speaking to these budgets was Town Administrator J. Johnson

Unemployment – Mr. Johnson spoke to FY 2013 Budget being level funded on unemployment, and anticipates that budget will run out of money. All of the claims have come from the School Department and anticipate that they will need a Reserve Fund Transfer in May. Most of the claims are for cafeteria workers with the reorganization of the school lunch program.

Committee discussed possibly using some of the money that has been set aside by the override for this deficit rather than using the Reserve Fund. Town Administrator spoke to proposing to use some of the potential Health Insurance Budget money to fund this deficit under Article 5 of the Spring Town Meeting and suggested that the Committee discuss this with the School Committee when they meet with the Finance Committee.

Chairman spoke to the need to have more information on the unemployment claims. School Department will be requested to meet with the Finance Committee at their meeting of February 14. Committee needs to have preliminary budget numbers from the School Department.

Casualty Insurance – Budget includes Police and Fire Accident Insurance, Property and Casualty Coverage and Worker's Compensation. Town purchases it's Police and Fire Coverage through VFIS and all other coverage's through MIIA. In FY 2012 the Town received \$37,219 in reward credits through MIIA that we were able to apply towards the FY2013. All damages to the town's buildings come through the Assistant Town Administrator's Office. Town has a \$5,000 deductible. There was a \$40,000 claim at the high school. Town has been informed that communities that purchased insurance from MEGA property and casualty group during 2003-2006 would receive an assessment. If the Town does not pay the assessment,, MEGA could pursue assessment from MEGA it

require three payments (\$21,000). Town has two more years to pay. Assistant Town Administrator is awaiting the final rates, increase of 12% has been built in.

Committee discussed being self insured, Town Administrator does not recommend self insurance for Workers Comp, as there is not a large enough pool. Town does a lot of risk management programs and tries to be pro active.

Town will receive the final budget numbers in March from MIIA for police and fire. WC audit to be done this year. Audit will look at what was paid out and assess us the difference. They would like MIIA to be more diligent so that there are no surprises. Look at what we paid out, can assess us the difference.

Town Administrator handles the health insurance, Assistant Town Administrator handles the rest of the claims.

Library

Monies remaining from the new library have to go to some future capital project in a special account. Town Administrator spoke to using it for a facility design. At this time it is not earmarked for anything in particular. Project will close within 45 days (middle of April). Further discussion to take place with the meeting with the Maguire Group. Town Accountant will check on the requirements.

Town Administrators Update

Approaching Storm - All three fire stations will be staffed. DPW will work regular hours, then onto overtime. Contact private contractors will be called in, heavy equipment on stand by. He feels that with the approaching storm, Snow and Ice Budget will be wiped out. They have in place contingency plan to move people. Federal Aid is not known. Emergency Management will be staffed and active.

Cable Television – Contract is coming up, portion of receipts comes to the Town to fund a person. Volunteer Board pays themselves. Funds are suppose to be used only on cable projects, anticipate upgrading the cable at high school, Community Room at Library. Some work has been done in the Main Meeting Room.

Revolving Funds Balances will be provided to the Committee prior to Town Meeting.

Minutes

MOTION MADE by D. Crowley, Seconded by J. Burke to approve the Minutes of January 28, 2013, Motion Passed (8-0-2) (D. Bruce, T. Williams abstained) (10 voting)

MOTION MADE by D. Bruce, Seconded by D. Crowley, to approve the Minutes of February 4, 2013, Motion Passed (9-0-1) (T. Williams abstained) (10 voting)

9:00 p.m. – **MOTION MADE** by D. Crowley, Seconded by T. Williams to adjourn, Motion Passed Unanimous (10-0-0) (10 voting)

Respectfully submitted,

Clare P. Abril
Clerk