

Corrected

Finance Committee Minutes
Room 5
May 24, 2011

Present: Mr. Kelliher, Ms. Hurlbut, Mr. Wolpin, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Pulver,
Mr. Blanchette, Mr. Mastascusa, and Mr. Veneziano (8:00pm)

Absent: Mr. Kirby

Guests: Mr. Balukonis, Town Manager, Mr. Tassone, Finance Director, Ms. Magner,
Veterans Services and Mr. Mauceri, Selectman

Mr. Kelliher, Chairman, brought the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Veteran's Services - Ms Magner reported that her Department's budget currently has a \$4,578 budget deficit and will be over budget by \$12,539 for May. Mr Kelliher commented that budget funding needs to be more realistic. Mr. Tassone mentioned that they had increased the "Level Funded" budget for next fiscal year. Mr. Mauceri said also it would be looked at. Mr. Mastascusa commented that with 75% of the "services" reimbursed by the state that it should be detailed in the income section of the "budget summary" from the Finance Director. Mr. Johnson commented that at our request they had just begun this year to provide that detail.

Ms. Hurlbut made a motion for a **reserve fund transfer** to Veteran's Services for \$12,539 which was seconded by Mr. Mastascusa and voted unanimously 7 to 0.

Chairman's Report

Secondary Building Committee - Mr. Kelliher reported that recent discussions that buildings replaced by the new construction would be demolished as the cost of refurbishing them would be too costly (may cost additional \$2 million). It was also brought up that the portion of the new school set aside for the superintendent's office would not be covered by state money.

Chairs/Vice Chairs' meeting 4/27 - Capital items were reviewed. School needs \$163,000. Possibly this amount could be covered through free cash in October. Mr. Mauceri commented that he would not want exempted debt used unnecessary until 2014 when some existing debt would be finished. the school boiler may be a priority this year.

In response to a question Mr. Tassone reported that the current rates for bond anticipation notes are about 2 to 3% plus initialization costs.

Mr. Balukonis reported that the Town has settled the Police Department has settled and ratified their contract. It includes a 1% increase retroactive to March 1, 2011, 1% increase for 2012 and 3% for 2013, and 2% FY14. Included in the contract are agreements for limiting sick time buy back from 1200 to 900 hours, no longevity buyback at the end of the contract (2014) and no paid birthdays off.

Warrant Votes -

Article 8 - Operating Budget excluding Enterprise Funds

Mr. Wolpin moved to approve the operating budget, excluding enterprise funds, of \$50,269,185 summarized as Grand Budget Total on page 5 of the warrant. Seconded by Mr. Johnson and passed unanimously 8-0

Article 8 - Operating Budget - Enterprise Funds

Ms Hurlbut moved to approve the Water Department budget for \$2,990,958. Seconded by Mr. Pulver and passed unanimously 8-0.

Ms Hurlbut moved to approve the Hillview Country Club budget for \$1,579,650. Seconded by Mr. Pulver and passed unanimously 8-0.

Vote for Parks and Recreation Enterprise will be made at Town Meeting after the vote establishing the Enterprise Fund.

Article 9 - Capital Expenditures

Ms Hurlbut moved to approve Capital expenditures (School Boiler \$250,000, School Technology Purchase \$163,000 and Town Road Improvement \$200,000) totaling \$613,000. Seconded by Mr. Veneziano and passed unanimously 8-0.

Article 11 - Transfer to Solid Waste Stabilization - will vote at Town Meeting

Article 12 - Appropriate Money to Stabilization - will vote at Town Meeting

Article 15 -Post Retirement Benefits Liability - will vote at Town Meeting

Article 25 - Access Easement to Elm Street (Smith) Property This amendment was voted down at the last Town Meeting and technically can only be brought up with approval of FinCom. Mr. Mauceri and Mr. Balukonis would like the Town to approve this easement before it is too late. Mr. Mastascusa would like to hear from both Mr. Delaney, who opposed this easement, and Town Council before we vote.

Article 26 - Rescind April 1987 Quinn Bill Vote - Mr. Mauceri would like the town to rescind the bill which currently ties Quinn bill increases to all benefits. Mr. Balukonis

believes the rescinding would only reopen issues which would then require legal work and costs since he believes the Police Union would sue. Mr. Mastascusa made a motion to not recommend the article seconded by Ms. Hurlbut. Mr. Kelliher recommended that we wait until Town Meeting. The motion was agreed to unanimously 8-0. No action will be taken until Town Meeting.

Finance's Director's Report

Reserve Fund transfers for the DPW were requested by Mr. Tassone.

Ms. Hurlbut moved to approve a Reserve Fund Transfer of \$13,000 for maintenance of town buildings. Seconded by Mr. Mastascusa and passed unanimously 8-0.

Ms. Hurlbut moved to approve a Reserve Fund Transfer of \$15,000 to DPW for their fuel budget. Seconded by Mr. Pulver and passed 5-3 with Mr. Mastascusa, Mr. Blanchette and Mr. Wolpin voting against. Mr. Tassone reported that any money not needed for fuel would be returned to free cash.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 6, 2011 at 6pm.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm

Approved _____ Dated _____