

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

AUGUST 28, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room of Town Hall. The following members were present: Ken Szajda, Michelle Zeamer, Michelle Johnson and Kathleen White.

Kathleen White, seconded by Michelle Zeamer, made a MOTION to approve the minutes of May 29, 2012. Passed 4-0-0.

Michelle Johnson, seconded by Michelle Zeamer, made a MOTION to release the approved minutes from the Executive Session of March 9, 2010. Passed 4-0-0.

Leslie McDonnell and Bill Heuer attended the meeting to talk about the energy audit conducted at the Library by Northern Energy Services. Leslie explained that the fixtures are so old that replacement bulbs have to be special ordered and they are very expensive to purchase and use. These bulbs run very hot. They are looking into new fixtures. There are light "cans" in the ceiling, of which there are only 2 out of 14 bulbs working, that need replacing and the bulbs alone will cost about \$500.00. NStar offered a project which will cost around \$10,000 and NStar will pay about \$3000 towards it. There should be about a 4 year payback on the project. Leslie said that the Library spends about \$27,000 on gas and electricity per year. Ken Szajda asked if they could wait for Fall Town Meeting because it is technically a capital project and Leslie said that they could make do until then. She is going to see if she could get a few replacement bulbs from other town depts. to hold them over until then. Ken told he that the project could be scheduled now to be done right after Town Meeting.

Ken Szajda then updated the FinComm on the appointment process. There are 7 candidates for consideration, with 3 open slots. It is a joint appointment between the BOS and FinComm. There will be a joint meeting on Sept. 4, 2012 between the boards, at which time each candidate will be given 15 minutes in a panel discussion. There will be 7 votes combined, and a candidate will need 4 votes to be appointed. Ken said that all 3 slots do not have to be filled by the available candidates. The appointments will end at the May election.

Ken Szajda said that he was involved this summer with budget planning for the town for the next 2 yrs. It appears that the trash fee can be lowered by \$45 for the next two years and they can fund the OPEB liability for the next two yrs. as well. Ken said that he would like to invite Sam Tyler to the Sept. 18th meeting to discuss OPEB liability trusts. Ken also will ask for capital requests before the meeting on the 18th. The BOS will open the warrant for Fall Town Meeting on Sept. 5 and it will close on Sept. 19.

Ken also reported on the status of the Benefits study. An overview was presented to town department heads. The job classification is done – dealing with the jobs on the chart. A presentation will be done to FinComm on Sept. 18th. The bidding process for actuarial services for OPEB is complete and the Siegel Company was named. The RFP requested an update as of July 1, 2012; and interim update as of July 1, 2013 (which would show the impact of insurance changes) and a report on July 1, 2014.

At 8:12 PM, Kathleen White, seconded by Michelle Zeamer, made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting.
Passed 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Approved: September 25, 2012

Faith Antonioli, Secretary