

Accepted: 9/15/14
Voted: 4-0-0

Finance Committee Meeting
June 18, 2014

Called to order at 7:05 pm at the Ashfield Town Hall.

Present: Ted Murray (Chair), Ricki Carroll, and David Newell, Janet Rogers, Tom Schreiber (few minutes late), Helen Boyden and Donna Elwell (Mary Priscilla Howes Fund Representatives), Mary Fitzgibbons (Administrative Assistant).

Request for \$300 from Mary Priscilla Howes Fund to help finance grant request by Ashfield Emancipation Proclamation Committee. Motion made by D.N. to accept, seconded by R.C. Unanimously approved (4-0-0).

Ted will email Joyce Muka, Accountant, and Laura Blakesley, Treasurer, to disperse funds. (See attached document)

Discussion about 5/3/14 minutes: R.C. stated that split votes need to be identified by who voted what. T.M. recommended that a note be added that the FinCom is currently unable to identify who voted how and will correct oversight in future minutes. R.C. motioned to accept minutes as amended, D.N. seconded, unanimously approved (5-0-0).

Reserve Fund Requests: (see attached forms)

-Collector requests \$140.92, balance in fund is \$864.16, invoice for \$1,005.08

-FRCOG requests \$0.24.

-Highway requests \$0.32.

-FRCOG requests \$63.16.

-Highland Ambulance requests \$31.08.

-Town Common Principal requests \$144.81.

-Retiree Benefit Health requests \$1,820.07.

-Fire Chief requests 0.84.

Total of \$2,201.44 requested from \$3000.00 balance in Reserve Fund.

All requests unanimously approved (5-0-0).

Transfer of Funds Requests: (see attached forms)

-Highway Dept. requests to transfer \$5,000.00 from Highway Fuel Account to General Highway Fund. D.N. made motion to approve transfer, asking Highway Superintendent to give more specificity in request. D.N. made motion to approve, R.C. seconded, unanimously approved (5-0-0).

-Fire Dept. requests \$1,000.00 from Fire Dept. Utilities to Fire Dept. Expenses. D.N. made motion to approve, J.R. seconded, unanimously approved (5-0-0).

D.N. requests M.F. to investigate whether FRCOG emergency towers can be combined with Cell Tower placement. M.F. agreed.

Reorganization of Finance Committee:

Personnel Committee Representative – Ricki Carroll

Chair – Ted Murray

Clerk – Janet Rogers

Vocational Ed Representative – David Newell
Vice Chair – Tom Schreiber
Unanimously approved (5-0-0).

Voke Educational Expense update from D.N.:
-Gas appropriation (Contractor vs. Municipal). (see attached memos)

Recommendations on Articles for 6/23/14 STM: (see attached documents)

Article 1 – no recommendation (5-0-0)

Article 2 – no recommendation (5-0-0)

Based on insufficient information and conflicting allegations re: financial implications for the town in materials located to date (see attached documents).

Received letter in support of an every other year audit of Town Finances. (see attached email to Select Board)

Note of thanks from current owner of Ashfield House in reference the FinCom's support in releasing them from the Town's lien.

Update on lift/elevator inspection request to combine visits with other buildings in town: still in progress.

Correspondence from Deborah Nicholson requesting copy of FinCom minutes dated 11/2013. T.M. will continue to follow up with her.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Rogers, Clerk

Document List;

0. Agenda for 6/18/14
1. Grant request to Mary Priscilla Howes Fund
2. Reserve Fund Transfer Requests (8)
3. Intra-departmental Fund Transfer Requests (2)
4. STM Warrant for 6/23/14
5. Memos related to Vocational Education transportation
6. Materials related to financial implications of gas pipeline for the town
7. Email from USDA to Select Board
8. Copies of emails from D. Nicholson