

Board of Finance Minutes
Regular Meeting • April 8, 2015

The Meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm

Present; Ron Emanuel, Ed Dorsett, Lisa Weik, Scott Pottbecker, Selectman Birkett and members of the public.

Absent: Larry Sweeney, Jessica McDonald, Barbara Burch, Tracy Martin

Motion to seat Ed Dorsett for Barbara Burch made by Ron Emanuel, Scott Pottbecker 2nd. Motion carried.

Board of Selectman Update:

Update from Selectman Birkett regarding the April 7, 2015 Board of Selectman meeting. He requested addition to the agenda regarding the tax assessments and correspondence. First Selectman declared a recess and left the meeting. A discussion followed among the town residents who were there. Selectman Birkett discussed the First Selectman's letter to Tax Collector Launa Goslee.

Correspondence:

- Letter to the Selectman from the Tax Collector
- Grand List of Taxable Property for year ending Oct. 1, 2014.
- Certified mail regarding union complaints
- Memos from Highway Department regarding a road plan and a possible budget changes from Lew Clark.
- 2 letters from Sandy Beach Commission regarding capital requests.

Budget Review:

2015-2016 Budget Review

Chairman Emanuel re-invited 1st Selectman and Transfer Station manager to be in attendance at tonight's meeting and received no response from either.

Have outstanding invitations to discuss budgets to Town Clerk with no response.

The board members had previously asked to seek clarification from Beach and Recreation Commission regarding email that the First Selectman did not approve any changes to the Beach and Rec. Budget. To date, no response has been given to the Board of Finance from the Beach and Rec. Commission regarding this.

To date the Board of Finance has received no budget from the Senior Center.

Discussion ensued regarding the General Government Budget.

Tracy Martin joined the meeting at 7:50 pm.

Recommended some cuts due to last year's spending amounts in the Board of Selectman's supplies and file server maintenance line items.

Discussion ensued regarding the increase in Town Counsel line item request to \$40,000. It was determined that this amount was not necessary to budget for and, if needed, contingency funds could be approved on a case by case basis. Line item amount set to \$7,000.

Transfer Station Budget was reviewed. Cuts were made in the Expense line item. New line item for \$5,000 Brush and Debris requested was denied.

A general discussion was held regarding the potential impact that the revaluation decrease and school budget increase will have on the town's mil rate or cuts to the operating costs of the town.

Motion made by Tracy Martin to have the auditor come back in to look into using the fund balance to offset some of the budget increases. Ron Emanuel 2nd. After discussion the motion was withdrawn at this time.

2013-2014 Annual Report:
Lisa Weik will work on the Annual Report

2014/2015; Expenditure Reports
Table review of the minutes until next week's meeting.

Old Business:
Motion by Ed Dorsett to add grievance hearing to the agenda, 2nd by Tracy Martin, motion carried.
Ron will attend grievance hearing at 10:00 am Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at the Town Hall.

New Business:
Motion to add Sandy Beach request by Ron Emanuel, 2nd Ed Dorsett. Motion Carried. Will Invite Sandy Beach Commission to the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:31 pm made by Ed Dorsett, 2nd by Ron Emanuel.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Martin
Board of Finance Clerk