



TOWN HALL | 39 SOUTH STREET | HINSDALE, MA | 01235 | 413-655-2300

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES / Sept. 7, 2017

Present: Members: Dick Scialabba, Christine Pike, Ray Bolduc, Shawn Galliher, Heather Brown, Vivian Mason

Absent: Earl Peck, Justin Gilardi, Mary Rice

Others: Select Board Chair Laurel Scialabba, Town Administrator Bob Graves

Call to order: 7pm

Agenda:

1. Public Comment
- None
 - 2. Minutes from the previous meeting
 - Accepted as written – unanimous
 - 3. Treasurer's Report
 - None
 - 4. Review of Accounts
 - - Financial software budget already disbursed 82% of allotment?
 - We pay software costs up front, which is why this shows such a balance
 - Veteran's salary is also trending over their allotment?
 - Same reason as above, the salary is paid in advance
 - Veteran's Aid is also trending ahead at 21%
 - - Bob will check on this for the next meeting
 - Community Center budget already dispersed 47% of allotment?
 - Laurel believed it must be an error or charge to wrong account.
 - Bob will look into this.
 - It appears that at least two DPW projects may come in under budget?
 - We were reminded that we shouldn't assume the projects have been completed.
 - Bob will look into this.
 - Tree Warden and DPW overlap: there were questions regarding what is Tree Warden's responsibility and budget versus DPW's.
 - Tree Warden decides what trees come down, and should be able to produce a list for review in advance of work. Such a list would aid the community and demonstrate transparency.
 - There is a difference between Winter Road Maintenance, Canopy Clearing, and Chapter 90 fund work.
 - Bob will review this with DPW to seek clarity.
 - Overlay Surplus -- \$83,0308.00
 - Some concern over the numbers Dave and Charlie had, but it appears to have been rectified.
 - Question about why the release isn't simply a SOP, some % of the total?
 - Shawn said it came off the recap and based on the past five years of data.

- A motion was made for a complete accounting of this, and the Finance Committee unanimously agreed to request an accounting of this matter. Dick will ask for the accounting from Dave and Charlie.
- Free Cash -- \$436,298.00
 - We had more revenue this year than previous year(s)
 - It does raise new and additional questions to ask of all departments. Perhaps we should occasionally audit to ensure best practices
- The Emergency Management grant was approved, which this year will benefit the HPD with some new equipment (radios, med kits, and a camera).
- Highway uniforms: What is the DPW uniform?
 - Jeans, shirts, and an allotment for boots
 - Safety Vests, etc.
- Sports and Rec committee: Is there one?
 - Where does this money go?
 - The others believed it is to provide field toilet, lights, and snack bar.
 - Bob will confirm.

5. New Business

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- Discussion about Mr. Peck's status.
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 - Dick will reach out via letter.
- Ray Bolduc – The Ethics Commission officially cleared Ray regarding the alleged conflict of interest question regarding his son's truck.

Meeting adjourned: 7:40 pm

Next Meeting: October 5, 2017 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Community Room

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Graves,
Town Administrator