

Shutesbury Finance Committee Minutes
Tuesday, December 13, 2011, 6:50pm

Members Present: Lori Tuominen, Eric Stocker, Weezie Houle, Al Hanson, Rus Wilson, George Arvanitis and Gary Hirshfield; **Members Absent:**; **Visitors Present:** Becky Torres, Tom Harding, Mary Anne Antonellis, Karen Traub, Dale Houle, Kate Cell, Michele Sedor, Michele Regan-Ladd, David Wheeler, Al Springer

- 1) Meeting called to order at 7pm.
- 2) Approved minutes of 11/16/11 & 12/6/11 as amended.
- 3) Tom Harding, Police Chief presented FY13 budget
 - a) The department has lost \$11,000 Community Policing Grant and \$5,400 the Governor's Highway Safety Grant. They were regular occurring grants. Although they didn't feed directly into the departmental budget but they augmented it. The Community Policing Grant paid for special projects like field day, bikes, and Halloween candy. The Governor's Highway Safety Grant contributed to 24 hours of enforcement per block (6 enforcement blocks, it contributed to extra patrols).
 - b) No changes for staffing for next year. We have mutual aid with Leverett and New Salem. 2 shifts per day.
 - c) The Fire Chief has been assisting the Police department with radio procurement and they are very current.
 - d) Will need new technology in the next 5 years.
 - e) In-service training funding has been done away with for this year. Most of this has been done online. The \$ is so tight that the state is waiving all the in-service training.
 - f) They have enough money for the rest of this fiscal year.
- 4) Mary Anne Antonellis, Library Director, presented FY13 budget proposal with a \$1,380 increase in town meeting appropriated funds so as to keep the library certified (state mandate).
- 5) Review the Expense report.
 - a) Discussion re: unemployment fund; Gabe may recommend that we open a trust fund for funding unemployment
 - b) School lunch is getting out of the red.
- 6) Misc. question update discussions:
 - a) Propane generator – Walter needs to submit another bid
 - b) New highway truck – coming in Feb. Tim has fixed up the old truck to get through the year.
- 7) Discussion regarding the Finance Committee response to an email asking questions about the Bill Wells mailing.
- 8) Future agenda items:
 - a) IT backups
- 9) Next Meetings:
 - a) January 3, 2012, 7pm
 - i) Tim Hunting, Highway Dept., present FY13 budget, 7:15pm
 - ii) School Committee, 8pm with Select Board
 - b) January 10, 2012, 7pm
 - i) Gabe Volker, Treasurer, 7:15pm
- 10) Adjourned at 9:20pm

Respectfully submitted, *Weezie Houle*