

Shutesbury Finance Committee
Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2010, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Finance Committee Members Present: Patrick Callahan, Bill Wells, Lori Tuominen, George Arvanitis, Weezie Houle, Rus Wilson, Gary Hirshfield, **Visitors:** Becky Torres, Tim Hunting; Mary Anne Antonellis, Karen Traub and Michele Sedor

- 1) Call to Order: 7:05pm
- 2) Reviewed email from Bob Mahler. Patrick will respond and let him know we got his message.
- 3) At 7p.m., meet with Tim Hunting, highway superintendent, presented a level funded budget.
 - a) A new sign for the Highway Department
 - b) We should make the budget line item highway uniform \$2,500
 - c) Drop road markings to \$5,000
 - d) Paving from last year and some on the culvert at the dam.
 - e) Three wood trusses in the salt shed are broken. Tim called a builder and had him look at the trusses to discuss patching them. Get a structural engineer to design a fix or just replace them. It is a 16' span that has no support.
 - f) The HD have never had a resurfacing account. Tim would like to have a line item for small paving jobs.
 - g) The 1 ton is still in use. They just spent \$1,500 on it and got a sticker.
 - h) Tim is shorthanded by one guy.
- 4) At 8 p.m., meet with Maryanne Antonellis, Karen Traub and Michele Sedor for annual budget review.
 - a) Mary Anne presented a 0% increase while increasing the town appropriation by the requisite 2.5%
 - b) She then presented a budget with an increase of 10 hours for the librarian plus 2 hours on weekend, one hour each on Saturday and Sunday.
 - c) She then presented a budget with an increase of 5 hours for the librarian plus 2 hours on weekend, one hour each on Saturday and Sunday.
 - d) The library is one of the busiest in the state for its size. Only 12 are smaller than ours and they all have running water.
 - e) Circulation has increased 35% in the past five years, 19% in FY09 alone, the year the library became a mininet member.
 - f) There is a volunteer on every shift except Wednesday morning and weekends.
- 5) Update on fire station cleanup, discussion of any necessary budget adjustments.
 - a) Estimate from National Grid for 3 Phase power was \$100,000 - \$1M
 - b) Becky talked to our Licensed Site Professional who suggested installing a smaller system which would reduce the Cubic Feet per Minute, how far it can draw and how long it would take to clear the air.
 - c) Becky talked to Walter about it the options. We need more information about the existing building's structure.
- 6) Signing of a transfer of funds from the school to the finance reserve funds.
- 7) Adjourn: 9:05pm

- 8) **Note:** Next meeting is Jan. 4, 2011, joint meeting with the selectmen and school committee on elementary school budget at 8 p.m.