

Shutesbury Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 9, 2014, Town Hall, 7:pm

Members Present: Gary Hirshfield, Weezie Houle, Rus Wilson, Eric Stocker, George Arvanitis and Susie Mosher, **Members Absent:** Al Hanson **Visitors:** Becky Torres

1. Meeting Called to order at 7:10pm
2. Review Expense Report
 - a. The \$14,830.32 carried over from last year for Lot O32 is to clean up the mechanical and tires, etc.
 - b. All line items are within appropriate range.
3. Committee Reports: - None tonight
 - a. Rus Wilson and Gary Hirshfield – Capital Planning
 - b. Al Hanson – CPC -
 - c. Susie Mosher – School Committee –
 - d. George Arvanitis – Personnel –
 - e. Eric - Broadband Report –
4. Highway Dept. Budget Review
 - a. Capital Planning Item: Mower for high and low on the road edging. We usually hire someone to do it for \$95/hour. This year we spent \$3,400. Tim would like to buy a Boom mower with a Flail head that is very good in brush and rock. It would fit right on the 3 point hitch of our tractor. We would probably still hire outside folks, but it would be far fewer hours, maybe less than 50%.
 - b. Budget: He is proposing a level funded budget with the exception of one line item, the catch basins.
 - c. He can't do all the catch basins himself. There are about 120 basins in town. Tim needs about \$1,500 more in his Catch Basin clean-up.
5. Fire Dept. Budget Review
 - a. Walter is proposing a level funded budget.
 - b. He would like to add a line item for hoses. Most of the hoses were purchased in 1975. It is time to start replacing them. He would like to do partial replacements each year instead of all at once. FRCOG has good prices for them. He is suggesting \$2,000 per year.
 - c. SCBA – He didn't spend that line item last year as they tried to get in on a Federal grant. He is submitting a new grant this year. This one will have a Memorandum of Understanding, saying that the towns are aware that they are part of a regional grant. He put in for 9 units and 18 tanks. Total value would be \$63,200. It requires a \$3,160 match. He could possibly sell the older, replaced units and bottles.
 - d. Discussion to responding to calls at the Leverett FD.
 - e. Status of the new fire truck? Walter is pressing the sales person for answers. We have not signed off on the specifications yet.
6. WiredWest MBI – meeting between 2 and 8pm, and 6-8pm tomorrow. Broadband met on Sat for 3 hours analyzing the 3 ways to get fiber. The meeting was inconclusive.
7. Next Meeting:
 - a. January 6, 2014, 7pm
8. Meeting adjourned: 9:45pm