

Shutesbury Finance Committee Minutes
Tuesday, June 11, 2019 Town Hall

Members Present: Eric Stocker (minutes), George Arvanitis, Rita Farrell, Bob Groves, and Jim Hemingway

Members Absent: Weezie Houle, Jim Walton **Non-Members present:** Paul Lyons

- Discussion re: Letter to Senator Jo Comerford
The Senator has asked for feedback from the towns re: allocation of State resources. We decided to work with the Selectboard to write a joint letter to the Senator that would express our support for changing the state tax structure to be more progressive and the need to funnel more money back to the towns. There was a general consensus that increasing reliance on property taxes was a bad policy.
- We reviewed FY 19 Budget YTD expenses.
Our initial thoughts were that any overruns will be able to be funded from FinCom Reserves. Therefore there will be no need to transfer funds from other accounts. In general, it appeared that we would generate some Free Cash from underspent budget lines.
- We reviewed the May 2019 Annual Town Meeting (ATM) with an eye toward improving our presentation.
There was a sense that the School Committee needs to present the SES Budget. Furthermore, we agreed that more advance information re: School (both Regional and SES) should be made available. There was a suggestion that school "Budget Drivers" could be mailed out with the annual mailing proceeding ATM. In the age of high speed internet we suggested that the entire budgets should be available on line. We also discussed a need to make sure that all "noteworthy" fund balances were available at the ATM.
- FinCom Transfers
We transferred \$238.37 to the Registrars line.
We transferred \$2000.00 to the Legal line
- Monitoring the FinCom email
We decided to assign this when we next meet and vote for FinCom officers and representatives to committees.
- Our next meeting is July 16, 2019.
- We met with the Selectboard and Becky Torres to thank George for his years of service on the Finance Committee.
- We adjourned at 8:47 PM.