

Shutesbury Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 29, 2013, Town Hall

Members Present: Eric Stocker, Gary Hirshfield, Al Hanson, George Arvanitis, Rus Wilson and Weezie Houle

Members Absent: Lori Tuominen **Visitors Present:** Becky Torres, Tim Hunting

1. Meeting Called to order at 7:05pm
2. Tim Hunting presented his FY14 budget – level funded
 - a. Line marking – Tim likes a company who paints the lines at night.
 - b. The 2000 Chevy Pickup is very rusty. It may need replacing next year. (\$40,000) (Capital Planning).
 - c. The 1998 Int. Dump Truck may need replacing in 3 years. (~\$150,000; a stainless steel body would last longer and be more expensive) (Capital Planning).
 - d. Tim is considering spraying Fluid Film undercoating under some of the trucks for added protection, for the cost of about \$100 – \$150 per vehicle.
 - e. The new loader is excellent and the new Ford pickup is great too. We ended up trading in the old loader and got \$18,000, reducing the cost of the new loader to \$124,636. The old one cost \$85,000 and ran for 18 years, at the annual average cost of \$4,722.
 - f. He did mention that they could use a vibratory roller. He can rent one and try it. It may help the washboard.
 - g. The bigger towns have washing bays.
 - h. There is a mobile truck washing operation that comes to your site. Eric will send Tim the information.
3. Approve the minutes of October 1, 2013 as amended.
4. Reviewed the Expense and Revolving funds for FY14.
 - a. The Insurance line may go over. Workers Comp went up 12%. We have a separate policy for Police and Fire insurance. This year the premium went up \$2,700 higher than last year. This line has turned back free cash for 4 years. We may need an additional \$6,000 to cover the expenses we anticipate for this line item.
 - b. Everything else is looking appropriate for the time of this time of year.
 - c. Health Insurance is looking very good at this point. We carry a buffer that equals 2 family policy costs.
5. **Vote on Warrants for Special Town Meeting.**
 - a. **Article 1:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$2,977.84 from free cash to pay prior year bill for Hauling Expenses, **approved unanimously.**
 - b. **Article 2:** To see if the town will vote to transfer from free cash, \$14,700 to repair the leaking slate roof of the MN Spear Memorial Library, **approved unanimously.**
6. Discussion about the changes from year to year of tax rate, avg. home valuation and others. Becky is going to refine the charts with Gail and represent it to us.
7. No Reports:
 - a. Rus Wilson – Capital Planning and Co-chair
 - b. Weezie Houle – School Committee
 - c. Al Hanson – CPC
 - d. Gary Hirshfield – Capital Planning
 - e. Lori Tuominen – Co-chair
 - f. George Arvanitis – Personnel

8. Next meeting is Tuesday, November 12th, 2013, 7pm
9. Upcoming Finance Committee meeting dates and Department Head presentations of FY15 budget.
 - November 12: Library
 - November 19: All Boards Meeting
 - Dec 10: Police Dept.
 - Jan 7: School (w/Select Board)
 - Jan 21: Financial Team: Treasurer, Accountant and Assessor
 - Feb 4: All Boards Meeting
 - Feb 18: Personnel Board / Other
 - Mar 4: School, Part 2
 - Mar 18: Fire Dept., Capital Planning, Tax Collector
 - Apr 1: Regular Mtg.
 - Apr 15: Final Budget, Warrant voting
 - Apr 29: Town Meeting presentation prep
 - May 3 Annual Town Meeting
10. Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.