

Shutesbury Finance Committee Minutes
Tuesday, April 5, 2018 – Town Hall, 7pm

Members Present: Eric Stocker, , Weezie Houle, Elaine Puleo Jim Walton Bob Groves, George Arvanitis and Jim Hemingway **Members Absent:** none **Non-Members present:** Becky Torres,

- 1) Approve minutes from March 22, 2018 as amended.
- 2) Review Current Expenses
 1. Lots of Legal expenses coming. Next year we won't have any contract employees.
 2. The MTA rep to let us know that there are potential legal costs over our insurance fund plan designs.
 3. There are some line items like telephone and communications that have not been credited by funds from the school.
- 3) Motion approved unanimously to move \$300 from Finance Committee reserves to the Records Storage Advisory Committee for 25 archival cartons for Old Town Hall storage.
- 4) Jim Walton was appointed to the Fire Chief Negotiations committee and Elaine will be stepping down.
- 5) Review the Draft Budget
 - a) There is a request to increase the Records Storage Advisory line item in the FY19 budget item from \$105 to \$500.
 - b) We may need to increase FY19's Legal line item.
 - c) Becky is working with Joe Markarian to make the tax levy more clear in our budget. We need to show the excess levy capacity. She is formatting the budget accordingly.
 - d) Becky has increased the Health Insurance line item in the budget by 10% instead of where we had it at 5%. We stand to lose \$25,000.
 - e) Union negotiations are not in yet. All lines are at 2.5% but some may come in higher.
 - f) Becky will talk to Gail about reducing the Veterans line by \$5,000, from \$15,000 to \$10,000.
 - g) Becky will reduce the Unemployment line to \$1,000, from \$5,000 to \$1,000.
 - h) OPEB – Becky brought this back down to \$50,000.
 - i) Becky entered in the longevity bonuses. Elaine found one left over from last year.
 - j) Discussion about the fire training line item.
- 6) Review Capital Planning funding
 - a) \$75,000 for a new tractor boom mower will be funded by Cap Stabilization.
 - b) \$38,000 for a new police SUV cruiser will be funded by Free Cash.
 - c) \$17,000 for flooring at the Shutesbury Elementary School Cap Stabilization.
 - d) \$73,000 for a new playground at the Shutesbury Elementary School will be funded by Cap Stabilization.
 - e) \$34,000 for roof replacement at the Town Hall will be funded by Cap Stabilization.
 - f) Non-Capital purchase of \$207,000:
 1. Revolving fund for Unemployment - \$20,000 - will be funded by Free Cash
 2. Law Suit regarding the well - \$40,000 - will be funded by Free Cash
 3. Broadband Operations - \$105,000 - will be funded by Free Cash
 4. SPED overrun - \$42,000 - will be funded by Free Cash
- 7) Motion passed unanimously to fund \$199,565 from Capital Stabilization and \$245,000 from Free Cash.
- 8) We discussed that we may need \$300,000 for the town's portion of the MSBA grant for roof repairs at the school, and \$90,000 for Paving for School, which we will go for at a Special town Meeting.
- 9) Meeting adjourned 9pm
- 10) Future Meeting Schedule:
 - a) Thursday, April 12, 2018, Broadband
 - b) Thursday, April 26, 2018, Town Meeting Prep
 - c) Saturday, May 5, 2018, Town Meeting
 - d) Thursday, June ?, 2018