

Shutesbury Finance Committee Minutes

Tuesday, March 2, 2010, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Finance Committee Members Present: George Arvanitis, Patrick Callahan, Weezie Houle, Lori Tuominen, Rus Wilson

Members Absent: Gary Hirshfield, Bill Wells

1. Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm
2. No minutes approved
3. Meet with selectmen, capital planning committee
 - a. Patrick summary: the budget is balanced precariously, the assumptions: most depts. are at 0% increase; 1.5% increase for town staff; regional school budget increase of \$77,000; 10% cut in Chapter 70; 10% cut in Lottery; includes absorption of \$37,500 Capital requests that were approved by CPC.
 - b. Capital Planning issue: The 1 ton truck and the police cruiser were not recommended by the committee.
 - c. Discussion re: the 1 ton truck. Tim wants to take the decision to Town Meeting.
 - d. We have \$489,829 in Free Cash and \$330,359 in Stabilization
 - e. Due to the Fire Station clean up and the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) fund situation. However, it may be better to spend more money on full clean up now rather than spending \$50,000 per year for maybe 50 years into the future. We will know more within the month about the clean up. We also need to wait to see what happens with the Amherst Override vote on March 23rd. The local aid resolution hasn't happened yet.
 - f. Discussion on capital expense planning. They need to revisit their spending schedule.
4. Finance Committee meets by itself:
 - a. Resume discussion re: Capital Planning recommendations. George makes a motion to accept the Capital Planning Committee recommendations. Seconded. Discussion: re: police vehicle. Passed unanimously.
5. Reports from committees: did not do any committee reports tonight.

Votes taken: The Finance Committee voted to accept the recommendations of the Capital Planning Committee for the FY11 passed unanimously.

Next meetings – March 16, 2010, April 6, 2010, April 20, 2010

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50pm

Sen. Rosenberg's municipal meeting is 3-27-10