

Shutesbury Finance Committee Minutes

Dec. 1, 2009, Town Hall, 7 p.m.

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

Visitors: Becky Torres, Al Springer, Police Chief: Tom Harding, Fire Chief: Walter Tibbetts

1. **Call to order:** 7:02pm
2. **Minutes Approved for:** Nov. 3, 2009 as amended: added those present and absent
 - a. **Meet with Police Chief on budget: 7 p.m.**

Presentation by the police chief of the FY11 budgets, one with 0% increase and one with -5%. He reviewed all budget areas. The Commonwealth Quinn Bill Policing Grant is gone starting next year which impacts the police budget at the current year rate by \$8,064. With it gone next year the town will need to cover the entire amount, not just half of it (approximately \$3,500). If cuts are needed he will reduce shifts to make budget.
 - b. **Meet with Fire Chief on budget: 8 p.m.**

Presentation by the Fire Chief of the FY11 budgets, one with 0% increase and one with -5%. He reviewed all budget areas. He would achieve the -5% funding by reducing \$1770 in operating and \$823 in Equipment. The committee noted that he needs to represent a budget that demonstrates 0 and -5% in personnel as well. He is going to return another time.
3. **Reports from committees reps:**
 - a. **Capital Planning Committee Report:** Rus Wilson & Lori Tuominen,
 - b. **Community Preservation Act Report:** Bill Wells,
 - c. **LFNAC Report:** Lori Tuominen: Architects are hosting a community meeting /Ice Cream Social on December 2 to review the two lots under consideration.
 - d. **Personnel Committee Report:** None
 - e. **School Committee Report:** Weezie: none
 - i. School Committee Report: Bill Wells: none
 - ii. Union 28 meeting, : none
4. **Free Cash update:** Free cash was certified at \$569,000.
 - a. **Expense Reports**
 - b. **Revenue Reports**
5. **Old business:** Becky Torres reported that we will need on ly \$80,000 to finalize Phase 2 & Phase 3 of the clean up. Extensive excavation and removal to the tune of \$500K will not be necessary.
6. **New business**
 - a. Reviewed Town Meeting warrants to be voted on at the December 16, 2009 Special Town Meeting. Finance Committee recommendations are sought for:
 - i. Article 1: To transfer \$80,000 from Free Cash to the Fire Station Gasoline Spill account for the Phase II & III remediation of soil contamination. Vote taken by Finance Committee passed unanimously:
 - ii. Article 3: Regarding. To see if the Town will vote to increase the budget salary compensation of town employees 1.5% effective from July 1, 2009. Vote taken by Finance Committee passed unanimously:
7. **Next meeting:** December 15, 2009, 7pm: Highway Dept & Library Trustees Budget presentations
8. **Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm**