

SHUTESBURY FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes for Dec. 21, 2004
Shutesbury Town Hall

Members present: Chairman Eric Stocker, Al Beswick, Al Springer, Russ Greco, Patrick J. Callahan. Guest: David C. Dann, town administrator.

The meeting convened at 7:07 p.m.

The minutes of the Nov. 16 meeting were approved unanimously.

Al Beswick reported on his recent attendance at a School Committee meeting.

Eric reported that the Personnel Committee recently met and discussed possible changes to language governing the town's sick leave bank. He also said there was talk of improving the paper flow between the treasurer, accountant, and that committee.

This prompted a discussion on the possible future use of time clocks for town workers, including police officers and the highway crew. Overall, there was no sentiment to immediately impose the use of a time clock, but there was also a recognition that it does a much better job of documenting hours worked than the existing honors reporting system.

It was also noted that the shared police chief from Milo and Brownville Maine was scheduled to come to Shutesbury in January to meet with selectmen and officials from town and from Leverett. The two towns have study committees looking into adopting some form of shared police chief.

On the upcoming budget cycle, it was informally decided to let David Dann track down most of the smaller budget requests from committees and departments while the Finance Committee set a series of meetings with the major budget players

It was decided to meet with the Elementary School Committee on Feb. 1, after it had adopted its budget request; meet with the fire chief and highway superintendent on Feb. 15, and the police and capital planning committee on March 1. A meeting was also tentatively scheduled for March 15.

Eric reminded the committee there was a meeting in Amherst to discuss the regional school budget proposal set for Jan. 29 and urged members to attend.

There was no old business. There was no new business.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by Patrick J. Callahan.

