

**SHUTESBURY FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes for Sept. 19, 2006**  
**Shutesbury Town Hall**

Members present: Eric Stocker, chairman, Al Springer, Al Beswick and Patrick J. Callahan, Russ Greco. Guests Ralph Armstrong, selectman, David Dann, town administrator, Deacon Bonner, planning board, David Kielson, town accountant, Leslie Bracebridge, town clerk, David Cormier, library commission, Ken and Linda Rotundi, residents.

The meeting convened at 7:05 p.m.

David Keilson says estimates of free cash to be certified are \$570,084. He explained where those funds come from and says the state should certify the amount by the time of the upcoming special Town Meeting on Oct. 17.

A motion was made to transfer \$3,269.76 from the Finance Committee reserve fund to pay for a police speed sign and excess costs for unemployment. The sign costs \$3,145 and the unemployment cost was \$124.76. The motion was approved unanimously.

The committee reviewed the warrant articles for the special Town Meeting that require a Finance Committee recommendation. Eric reported that the Capital Planning Committee had approved articles 2, 5 and 4, but voted against article 6.

A motion to support article 2, which funds \$12,000 worth of educational material for the planning board and its revision of town zoning, was approved on a vote of 3-2. Al Springer and Al Beswick voted against this motion.

A motion to support Article 5, approving \$15,000 in matching grant money for the windmill project failed when it didn't get a second. The Rotundis, abutters, argued against the article and have been vocal opponents of the project.

David Cormier asked the committee to vote on articles 8 and 9. The committee told David that was not necessary because neither asked for money.

A motion for Finance Committee approval of Article 1 was unanimously approved. This article calls for \$94,414 in free cash to be used to balance the budget approved at Annual Town Meeting.

A motion to approve Article 3, to transfer \$18,100.22 from free cash to the hazardous waste account to pay for the gasoline spill at the highway garage was approved unanimously.

Article 4, transferring \$24,800 from free cash to pay for a new above ground gasoline tank for the highway department was approved by the Finance Committee on a unanimous vote.

A motion to disapprove Article 6, transferring \$10,000 from free cash to pay for new software for the police was approved. Al Beswick argued this was not an emergency and could be handled at Annual Town Meeting.

A motion to approve Article 7 failed for a lack of a second.

The next meeting was set for Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.

Submitted by Patrick J. Callahan.

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