

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Stumpf at 6:30 p.m. in the 3rd floor Conference RoomB at Town Offices. The meeting was not taped.

In attendance were Chairman S. Jon Stumpf, Linn Anderson, John Barry, Jr., Margaret (Peggy) Kruse, Joanne Marden, Paul Fortier and Eugenie (Janie) Moffitt. Also present was Finance Director, Donna Walsh. Absent was Greg Serrao.

Bob Pokriss addressed the meeting and asked if the FinComm was going to review the school's collective bargaining agreement prior to the school committee taking a vote.

Finance Committee Minutes

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Kruse and seconded by Mr. Fortier, the Committee voted to approve the January 27th minutes (see attachment) with the following changes. The motioned passed 6-0-1 with Ms. Moffitt abstaining.

Page 2

In first, third and fourth paragraphs correct Mr. Stumpf's name.

Page 3

In the first paragraph, add the word "reserve" after "Circuit Breaker."

In the second paragraph, correct number to read "\$2,213,000."

Triboard Meeting Minutes

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Kruse and seconded by Ms. Moffitt, the Committee voted to approve the December 9th minutes (see attachment) with the following changes. The motion passed 7-0.

Page 2

In the first sentence of Section IV change "FT" to "FY."

In the last line of five-line table change "Special Dedicated Funds" to "General Fund Exempt Borrowing."

In last line of next paragraph correct the word "be."

Page 3

In second to last line of the second paragraph, add after "service" the words "and lease payments." Correct the word "was" to "were."

School Department Budget Discussion

Mr. Forgue, Chairman of the School Committee, addressed the Finance Committee. Discussion ensued on how the Committees have worked together to make reporting and relationship better. Budget book is being developed taking into account the Committee's recommendations, and may still need adjustment. Munis is designed for state reporting and queries are necessary to get information in different formats. Need consistency on reporting information in a particular format.

Ms. Marden expressed concern that software doesn't give management the information it needs to make decisions, but Mr. Forgue feels they have the information they need. Mr. Stumpf added that in any event,

transparency is the key. Ms. Kruse expressed concern about the issue of the school obligating funds that are outside the school budget.

Mr. Forgue said that the Budget Book will be available before March 12th when Dr. McGrath makes her budget presentation.

Adjournment to Triboard Meeting

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Fortier and seconded by Mr. Barry, the Committee voted to adjourn to the Triboard Meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Reconvene to Finance Committee Meeting

The meeting reconvened from the Triboard meeting @ 8:10 p.m.

Snow and Ice Deficit Spending Approval

Upon motion made by Ms. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Barry, the Committee voted to authorize expenditures in excess of FY14 budget appropriation of \$1,247,000. The motion passed 6-0-1 with Ms. Marden abstaining.

Liaison Updates

Municipal Services –Ms. Kruse reviewed the structure of the new Municipal Services Department resulting from the consolidation of Plant and Facilities and DPW. The Municipal Services Department is now the second largest Town department (not counting schools) with a proposed FY15 budget of \$10,514,577. Ms. Kruse reported that savings will be generated by eliminating one director. Other personnel savings are being looked at.

Information Technology – Ms. Anderson spoke with Maurice Desruisseau, sitting chair of the IT advisory council, who was trying to schedule meetings of the council prior to town meeting. There are still two school-site empty seats on the council, which have not yet been appointed by the Superintendent. She also had another meeting with Paul Puzzanghera during which he gave her printouts listing IT work completed to-date, the approximate amount spent to-date, and the work remaining to be completed (see attachments.) Of the original \$2.5 million authorized in FY12, \$2 million has been borrowed. Approximately \$1.7 million has been spent. She noted that she had not received any financial information requested from the accounting department at our January 27th meeting, so consequently was unable to verify the accuracy of the numbers.

Mr. Stumpf will forward copies of the above-noted attachments to all members, along with an email received from Paul with an explanation of the Purchase Orders and numbers of computers leased. Discussion ensued on how to address in the FY15 operating budget the cost of the leases for the 160 computers ordered by the School in June 2013.

Future Meetings

The Finance Committee will post meetings to discuss town meeting planning at 7:00 pm. on March 5th and March 19th.

Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Fortier and seconded by Ms. Kruse, the Committee voted to adjourn. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Martin Barraford
For Donna Walsh
Acting Recording Secretary

Attachments:

*Memorandum of Approval of Snow and Ice Deficit Spending
IT financial data on computer project*