

Fin Com: 5/30/17

7:02 called to order

Present: Gloria Fisher, Ned Wolf, Jeff Simmons, Jan Carr, Kathy Inman

Officer: Ned willing to continue as secretary, but also willing to be chair.

Gloria made a motion to elect Ned as chair – unanimously approved. Secretary duties to be shared.

Have to approve capitol plan – questions about how to deal with free cash.

Prioritizing long range expenditures.

Ned has a list - Spread sheet used to project for the next 10 years from Joe Macarion – (in FRCOG) can explain use.

Capitol expenditure request to be submitted annually with the annual budget

Fin Com to vote on capitol improvement plan - everyone feels the need to review more closely before voting on it.

Review and discussion of May 6th annual town meeting- fin com joined BOS at the front of the room to answer questions.

Discussion of an unfortunate Recorder article by Tim Meers – “father and grandfather of Heath residents” who voiced some poorly informed opinions about the Heath school.

Review of school choices and decisions.

Committee for determining future use of the school - has been formed-including John Diamond, Lisa Wexler, Brian Devries, they want a realtor to join.

One suggestion is putting commercial solar field on the grounds.

BROADBAND: – we got grant – (money from the state) – pole count higher than state projections. Now need to negotiate pole count.

Poles joint owned by Verizon and National Grid.

One person said Verizon is like party line – trickle down – closer to pole – better service.

3 suggestions

Westfield Gas and Electric – can be used all the way or do installation and then someone else manages

Crocker has made a pitch - ? how much experience they have – new towireless business.

Crocker is able to raise fees every 3 years.

Wired West - ? about how much experience they have

Jan thinks that governors office is looking favorably on Westfield gas and electric, good reputation – other towns are signing on with them.

Broadband Committee to meet with Westfield gas and electric.

If we get broadband – phone bills will go down.

Greenfield is doing over the air broadband - pole to pole line of sight.

Shutesbury did good study on wireless – iron from the trees bringing it up from soil into leaves– which interferes with wireless.

Gloria questions why Fin com needs to meet with selectboard each time - we need to discuss fin-com issues. Ned notes that we were deprived of needed knowledge when we did not meet with BOS.

July – meeting to transfer funds.

? other issues – broad band committee to vote soon.

Stipends.

Gloria made motion to adjourn Fin Com from BOS meeting when done - approved unanimously.

At BOS meeting:

Shelia wants Fin Com to approve capital plan –Fin Com has not had the chance to reread the current copy– Sheila says that it is the same that they have already seen –

Jeff made motion to approve, Seconded by Gloria. Approved by Jeff , Jan and Ned

Jeff wants to review the policies prior to voting- will vote on that next time.

ATM reconciliation for town meeting – fin com has not yet had time to review –

Information sharing discussed and fin com to view BOS agenda posted on web site.

For next meeting on the 13th:

§ Reconciliation

§ Financial policies assoc with capital management plan.

§ Update on compactor project.

Meeting adjourned