

Minutes of the Meeting of the Heath Finance Committee
February 15, 2011

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Sawyer Hall

Present: Don Freeman, Ned Wolf, Jan Carr, Tracey Baronas, Val Kaempher, Dick Gallup, Deb Porter, Don Purington, Lorena Loubisky, Bob Gruen, Jenna Day and the BOS

Tracey submitted a budget request for the Accounting Department. It is level funded except for 'Accountant Support-Year End Close' where there is an increase from \$450 to \$750. The support bill for FY2011, which included things related to the McCloud purchase, was \$681. She said that the Veterans' Benefit fee for the Town has increased. Although we get 75% of the amount back later, she advised that the FinCom wait on approving a transfer out of the Reserve Fund.

Val submitted a budget request for the Assessors. There is a \$2500 request for new software. The amount requested for mapping has jumped from \$1000 to \$1850 to allow for an upgrade of the GPS overlay. The budget lines 17, 18, and 19, which pertain to a 4 year contract with a consultant who does revaluations, will require further discussion. Any contract binding a Town must go through the BOS and must not be for more than 3 years.

Don Purington submitted the budget request for the Library. The total amount requested for FY2012 exceeds what was requested for FY2011 by \$171.31. This is due largely to an increase in the Library Operating Expense.

The budget request of the Emergency Management Director is level funded . The BOS voted to add a line for an Alternate EMD at \$100. The BOS passed a motion to apply for an FFY2009 Performance Grant. Money from this grant might pay for the first year of Reverse 911.

There was a discussion with Lorena and Bob about a mistake in providing the Mohawk Central Office with correct enrollment data for the Heath School. The Heath data did not include children 3 years old. The staffing proposed by the Central Office for the Heath School is for 68 students instead of 81, the correct number. Members wonder whether or not adjustments can be made to compensate for the mistake.

The budget request for the Agricultural Commission is level funded.

There was discussion of how the increased fee for Veterans' Benefits might be paid. It appears that \$4500 could be taken from the Waste Management Fund. The amount in the Reserve Fund is about \$1000. As Tracey advised, members decided not to approve a request to transfer \$476 from the Reserve Fund to cover a reimbursement from the firemen's training and supplies account until there is

further discussion. Don suggested that we caution Mike that the Reserve Fund may not be large enough to cover the coming reimbursements for firemen's travel.

At 9:15 pm the BOS voted to go into executive session for purpose #6, Section 21, M.G.L. c.30 A. The motion was approved by a unanimous roll call vote. There was a discussion of a draft of a legal document pertaining to the Town's offer to Helen Mackie. At 10:15 pm the BOS voted unanimously by roll call to go out of executive session.

The FinCom adjourned at 10:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ned Wolf, Secretary