

TOWN OF HEATH
FINANCE COMMITTEE
AUGUST 4, 2011 MINUTES

Members Present: Don Freeman, Jan Carr, and Jeff Simmons

Meeting to order at 15:06

Minutes not available from previous meeting.

Transfer fund requests: The committee approved the following transfers from the reserve fund at the request of the town account by unanimous vote

\$384.00 for Assessors clerk salary

\$240.00 for Board of Health clerk salary

Highway truck purchase: The committee discussed the additional need for \$43,000.00 to complete the purchase of the truck approved for purchase at town meeting. Consensus among the committee is that we cannot recommend this, in good faith to the taxpayers. Jan noted that in addition to this purchase (replacing the 2009 truck) a 2001 truck and 2005 truck are also due for replacement between now and FY 2015 and the a fire engine is also overdue for replacement. Also complicating this purchase is the Mohawk roof repair which would add \$8,731.00 to the towns budget for the next 10 years (Jeff has calculated this into the FY2013 estimated budget previously).

Don talked with Dave Howland and the questions were raised and worthy of exploration; 1) What were the bid specifications? 2) How many bids received? 3) What are the pros and cons to delaying the purchase or omitting the wing plow?

Jeff also had discussion with town resident who expressed similar concerns. Jeff also estimates that the increased cost will push the town some \$18,000.00 over the levy limit.

Discussion was held to the possibility of buying several used trucks to meet the replacement schedule or refurbishing . It was felt this may require amending the ATM vote for, the warrant article to "purchase a new/used vehicle or refurbish the 2009 truck."

Jeff motioned to have Don will communicate with the highway superintendent requesting the following information ; current miles and engine hours on 2009 truck, what are the current

issues, number of hours used in summer and winter, copy of bid request, number of bids received, is truck being repaced because it is on the schedule or are there other factors. Jan seconded. Approved unanimously.

This also lead to a discussion of whether the replacement schedule is realistic. Members will attempt to contact other fincoms on their town repacement schedules. Jeff will also explore the use of online bidding.

E-mail Address: Don informs the board the fincom now has it's own email address allowing for a central point of communication via email. The address is Fincom@townofheath.org.

Community Hall Electrical Work: It is reported that electrical work will cost more than anticipated. The committee questions the wisdom of spending this money, especially in light of the sSpace Utilization Committee has not finsihed it's work which may require different electrical needs.

Grader Tires: Jan inquired if there was any update on the tires for the grader (5 tires @\$1,700.00/tire). No new information available.

Municipal Complex Update: Jeff gave the committee an update on the Municipal Complex Committee activities.

Jeff Motions to adjourn @ 16:12 seconded by Don and approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Jeffrey A. Simmons