

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

Time: 8:40 pm

Place: Dining room, Heath Community Hall

Present: Don Freeman, Ned Wolf, Jan Carr, and Dave Gott

Absent: Jeff Simmons

Don made a motion to defer consideration of the September 26th minutes. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

There was discussion of a plan to construct a pitched roof for the town dog kennel according to specifications in a memo from Tom Carleson. Jan asked about COG plans to take over dog management. Don reported on discussions at BOS meetings in which reservations have been expressed about the COG's services. The proposal would pay for the roof out of the recycling escrow fund. Don made a motion to approve financing of a new dog kennel roof by taking money out of the recycling escrow fund. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The discussion turned to budget procedures for FY2013 and in particular the November 15th e-mail on that topic from Don accompanied by a Budget Preparation Calendar for FY2013. In the e-mail Don lists four issues on which he and Sheila have agreed. Dave suggested and members agreed to insert that there be "biweekly, joint, dedicated budget hearings that begin at 7:00 pm or another mutually agreed upon time. In #3, "The FinCom and the BOS would agree that all negotiations on budget and capital-outlay matters be conducted at these joint budgetary meetings unless other arrangements are agreed to in advance and participated in by both bodies or their representatives" , Don explained that the intent is to minimize situations in which the BOS decides to use public money and informs us later. While supporting this effort, members also agreed to insert "except in cases of emergency",

Ned made a motion that the FinCom authorizes Don to draft an e-mail to the BOS based upon the November 15th e-mail with emendations to be sent out the morning of November 16th. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Members reviewed the Budget Preparation Calendar for FY2013.

Dave told members that when he is up for re-election in May of 2012, he may not run again. Members will think of possible candidates if one is needed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ned Wolf, Secretary

