

FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES OF MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2005

October 3, 2005

Present: Paul Muller
Karrie Rogers
Bruce Paterson
Joe Starnes
Mike Buckley
Cindy Doherty
Kevin Deleo
Steve Champeau

Absent: Gert Stonkus

Meeting opens at 7:00 pm P. Muller introduces members of the board.

P. Muller furnishes the board with copies of the six articles and the capital outlay recommendations for the warrant at the special town meeting October 17, 2005.

P. Muller requests that S. Moody speak to the public regarding article 5 recommendations from the water and sewer department.

S. Moody- As summarized in his memorandum dated October 3, 2005, Mr. Moody states (The low bid for well #5 was \$25,991.00 delivered but not installed. We will have to contract with an electrician to install the generator and we will buy and install the propane tank. He will be using the other \$4,009.00 dollars allocated for this project. Should these costs exceed this amount he will use my operating budget to fund the rest.

Article 5-Recommendations will be made at the next Finance Committee mtg, after the conclusion of the public hearing. (P. Muller)

Article1- P. Muller and R Houle agree article 1 is not a recommendation but a report to the public based on the mass general laws under the agreement with the town charter for emergency services. (Letter received declaring a state of emergency from the Department of Revenue and a statement signed from the Board of selectmen declaring a state of emergency) Monies for funding coming from Capital Trust in the area of \$52,000.00 as well as a bid ~~out~~ for the electrical work related to the install of the generator.

* A member requests a copy of all project budget related expenses and associated costs from the town administrator. (Information expected before the special town meeting October 17, 2005 R. Houle)

Article 6- P. Muller states that based on the findings at the executive meeting, the finance committee is not able to make a recommendation at this time as additional information is still pending. It is expected that a recommendation will be reached at the finance committee meeting following this public meeting.

*Mr. Patrick Costello counsel retained by The Board of Selectmen and The Board of Assessors to represent the towns interests, for 2 pending litigation matters that have been filed by A.N.P with Blackstone and the Town of Blackstone, he may make general comments to inform the board and the public as to the status of pending cases.

Article 2-No recommendation can be made at this time

Article3-P.Muller states that Article 3 is for the same salary position as Article 2, and to appropriate funds to support the new full time salary at the recycling center.

*Mr. Bill Walsh speaks regarding request for an additional salary for the recycling center \$26,000.00 for a third full time employee for the recycling center. B. Walsh states he will like to Transfer from the existing recycling center budget(s), to support this new position.

Article 4- R. Houle states that workers compensation is still pending regarding this case. He indicates that the Town is still responsible for the expenses incurred while litigation is pending regarding the outcome.

P. Muller summarizes the following:

Article 1:There may be a grant available for this article.

Article 2&3: Transfer that requires no raising or appropriating money, there may be a grant available for this as well.

Article 4: EOCD recaptured fund that is not from town taxes.

Article 5: Is based on a previously approved article and no additional appropriation is required.

Article6: Transfer from Stabilization Fund.

*Motion made to adjourn meeting 8:10 pm was made by S. Champeau 2cnd by J. Starnes **Unanimous Vote**.

AMG