

WASHINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE Minutes

March 23, 2015

Meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

In attendance: Kent Lew, Dick Spencer, Sean Connor and Dave Weissbrod

OLD BUSINESS

Finance committee minutes from March 9, 2015 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. FY16 Budget, line-item review

Jeff Sawtelle provided us with information regarding the Council on Aging's request for a FY16 budget of \$1,500.

Officer Breen provided us with notice of need for four new tires for voc-ed school bus. He also provided us with background on "fuel" budgeting, as well as division of fuel use between police cruiser, voc-ed bus, and Highway Dept. The line item for "Fuel" is listed under Highway Dept (FY 16 request of \$33,500 received from D. Fish). Given the gas pump's unfixed fuel gauge, it makes budgeting fuel use between departments difficult -if not impossible. An installed "Gas-Boy" may be worth installing, if obtainable at a reasonable price.

The finance committee discussed town's reliance on Phil Clark and possible creation of line item to plan and capture his effort.

The finance committee reviewed Highway Department line items.

Winter Roads budget will need to be increased (10% increase requested).

Road and Bridge: 19% increase requested.

Reviewed line item for Salaries and the fact that line item for Vacation & Holidays is separate from Salaries. We will look at possibly combining them under one line item. Reviewed line items for Machinery Maintenance, Gravel Road Acct, and Road Sealing and will ask Dave Fish for more feedback. We also want to discuss with Dave the State grant money for repair of potholes, to be used by June 30.

The finance committee discussed Kinder-Morgan line item (up to \$20,000 approved at special town meeting). What is a reasonable amount to budget for FY 16? \$6.000?

At approximately 8:40PM the finance committee met with the selectboard.

Kent presented capital projects cash-flow projections, long-term borrowing, and long-term debt service scenarios for bridgework, as well as possible Wired West

payment and borrowing plans. Dave Fish said he was in favor of using of some Chapter 90 money for Crossplace and Middlefield Road bridgework. He also said he was aware of the state “pothole” money and completion time of June 30.

FY16 budget review with selectboard will have to occur at a future meeting.

Meeting ran late and we didn’t discuss all items on our Finance Committee Meeting Agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully,
David Weissbrod, Secretary