

## Finance Committee Meeting January 27<sup>th</sup> 2011

Meeting was called to order at 7:03PM. Present were Mr. Zukauskas, Mr. Yohalem, Mr. Imberman, Mr. Herrick, Mr. Dowling, and Mrs. Spaulding. Guests included Ms. Tara White and Mr. Michael Skorput. Minutes were accepted as amended, Mr. Yohalem 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Dowling 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

The report on the VNA prepared by Mrs. Spaulding was presented and discussed. The committee suggested that the monthly visits by the VNA be advertised on the town sign outside the Library, and listed on the New Marlborough website.

The Visiting Nurse Association 705222.00 (\$1,343) and requesting [\$2,334.18] with Mr. Zukauskas 1<sup>st</sup>, Mrs. Spaulding 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

Mr. Yohalem reported that he had received a request from Mr. Joe Poindexter for the minutes of the Finance Committee Meetings to be e-mailed to him. Mr. Poindexter is interested in writing articles regarding the work of the committee. After some discussion it was decided that Mrs. Spaulding would e-mail the minutes after they had been approved by the Finance Committee, although Mr. Poindexter is free to come to the Town Hall and retrieve the minutes out of the file.

There was some question as to where the Highway Budget was, Mr. Skorput stated that Mr. Marks was reviewing it with Mr. Davis and Mr. Loring. Mr. Zukauskas stated that it was important to know whether there were any capital expenditures in this budget so that the committee could decide whether a new cruiser for the police department would be included this year.

The Grant Writer Expenses 10137.00 (\$500) now requesting [\$500] and the Grant Writer Salary (\$6,150) now requesting [\$5,000] was discussed. Because the town does not have a grant writer it was decided not to recommend approval of these two budgets. If a grant is written the writer's expenses should be able to be taken out of the Reserve Fund. So a motion was made not to recommend these two items Mr. Zukauskas 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Dowling 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

Audit 10134.00 (\$16,000) now requesting [\$16,000]. This budget was questioned since there had been a recent audit and the committee wondered why another was considered necessary. Added to this, in the past the amount set aside for an Audit was usually divided into two year segments. The budget was put on HOLD.

New Marlborough Rescue Expenses 60291.77 (\$25,000) now requesting [\$25,000] had been put on HOLD because there was some question about furnishings for \$3,000. Mr. Zukauskas reported that Ms. Maureen Guidi had stated that the First Responders were now setting up their office in the Fire House and plan to maintain all their records there

and needed the money for some furnishings. The budget with Mr. Zukauskas 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Dowling 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

**Library Expenses** 50610.01 (\$30,769) now requesting [\$33,994.48] had increased over the past year. Ms. Callahan reported that in the past the library had used the interest from investment accounts to subsidize the library expenses, but with the current recession the interest bearing accounts were meager. The budget with Mrs. Spaulding 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Zukauskas 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

Ms. White stated that the Selectmen had met with Mrs. Barbara Marchione to discuss the **Emergency Management** 60291.00 (\$600) now requesting [\$3,100]. Mrs. Marchione stated that she may not use all the money in this year's budget and that most of the funds she is requesting will probably go for mileage. The committee has not as yet received the Emergency Management budget.

**Contingent** 10122.02 (\$3,000) now requesting [\$3,000] Mrs. Spaulding 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Herrick 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

**Selectmen's Expenses** 20122.01 (\$3,700) now requesting [\$3,700] Mr. Dowling 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Imberman 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously

**Berkshire County Communications** 60299.00 (\$7,930) now requesting [\$8,144] Mr. Zukauskas 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Imberman 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

**Printing** 10195.00(\$2,700) now requesting [\$2,700] Mr. Imberman 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Dowling 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

The committee will not meet next Thursday, but rather attend the Southern Berkshire Regional School budget presentation at Mount Everett School at 5:00PM.

The next meeting will be held on February 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10PM

Respectfully submitted,

Prudence Spaulding, Secretary.