

Finance Committee Meeting

April 14th 2011

Meeting was called to order at 7:07PM. Present were Mr. Zukauskas, Mr. Yohalem, Mr. Herrick Mr. Dowling and Mrs. Spaulding, with Ms. Tara White (Selectman) and Mr. Skorput (Administrative Assistant).

Minutes for April 7th were accepted as amended, Mr. Zukauskas 1st, Mr. Yohalem 2nd passed unanimously.

There was some discussion about the proposed borrowing {by bond} by the SBRSD of three million dollars to be used for "capital" repairs. Both Mr. Herrick and Mr. Dowling had gone to the School Committee meeting where such repairs were discussed. Both men reported that the projects did not appear to be clearly defined. For instance the repairs to the Monterey School building that at present has 3 registered children and are scheduled to receive a total of 4 children "school choice" would involve unexplored monies and if these repairs were done they would have to include repairs that would bring the school in compliance with the ADA act. In summary the Committee felt that the SBRSD should be required to get permission from the various towns before expending any of the money of the three million dollar borrowed bond (should it be passed by all five towns) before engaging in the repairs. The way Article 30 was drafted was thought to be too general. The result was that the Committee voted to place on the warrant to be submitted to the voters at Town Meeting a "Not recommended by the Finance Committee" after Article 30. Mr. Zukauskas 1st, Mr. Herrick 2nd passed unanimously.

When reviewing Article 29, the Committee noted that at the Finance Committee Meeting April 7th they had voted on the Municipal Lighting budget of \$1000. After this meeting it was decided that this budget item would no longer be included and the Article 29 which related to Chapter 164 of the General Laws relating to the Department of Public Utilities and the Department of Telecommunications & Cable be included in the Warrant. Should funds be needed for this item, the selectmen decided that such funds could be obtained through the Reserve Fund. No vote was needed on this item.

The Animal Control Officers Expense 60293.78 (\$1075) now requesting [\$1,387] was presented. This covers part of the medical insurance received by our Animal Control Officer, Mr. John Springstrube. There was some discussion about his duties and his ability to prevent specific dogs off leash in Mill River. Dogs off leash prevent difficult problems, because the time elapsing between the call of complaint and his coming to Mill River often prevents him from either being able to catch them or identify the specific dog and charge the owner with an unleashed dog citation. The budget was passed with Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Zukauskas 2nd and Mr. Herrick opposed.

A request was made to transfer to the Propane Account 20422.18 which at present has a -\$7.54 the amount of \$3100. There is a bill at present for \$1524. The Committee noted that it is nearly the end of the fiscal year and hopefully the weather will be warmer so that there should not be much need for propane in the coming weeks. A motion to transfer \$2500 to this account was made by Mr. Yohalem 1st, Mr. Zukauskas 2nd and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM. The committee will meet about ½ hour prior to Town Meeting on May 2nd.

Respectfully submitted,

Prudence Spaulding Secretary.

Prudence Spaulding
April 16th 2011