

# Finance Committee Minutes

## March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017

The minutes for February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2017 were circulated at 6:30PM. In attendance were Mr. Carson, Mr. Thomas Stalker, Mr. John Pshenishny, Mrs. Marilyn Fracasso, Mr. Robert Miller and Mrs. Prudence Spaulding. Guests were Mr. Richard Long, Mrs. Michele Shalaby, Ms. Tara White, Mrs. Marsha Pshenishny, Mrs. Maureen Krejci and Mr. Joseph Krejci from the New Marlborough Rescue Service.

The reading of the minutes was waved so that Mr. and Mrs. Krejci could provide the information about the Rescue Service. The Rescue Service embodies three accounts. The **New Marlborough Rescue Expenses** [60291.77] (\$46,350) now requesting {\$25,100}; the **New Marlborough Rescue Clerical** [60291.78] (\$6,300) now requesting {\$4992} and the **New Marlborough Rescue Service Salaries** [60291.80] last year's budget request was (\$18,150) but it was then a part of the New Marlborough Rescue Service Expenses! now requesting {\$20,250}. The expenses were itemized. Mrs. Krejci explained that these budgets would not be raised and appropriated but rather the amount requested will require three warrant items at the Town Meeting to allow the needed funds to be transferred out of the Comstar Account. The funds within the Comstar Account result from the fees paid (generally by the medical insurance companies) to cover the expenses for folks who have used the services of our ambulance. When asked about the coverage of EMTs, Mrs. Krejci reported that nights were covered, however some of the EMT's do not work in the town and that service is not always covered during the daytime. Though the amounts specified by the various Rescue accounts did not have to be raised and appropriated the following votes of acceptance were taken.

**New Marlborough Rescue Expenses** [60291.77] for {\$25,100} Mrs. Spaulding 1<sup>st</sup>, Mrs. Fracasso 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

**New Marlborough Rescue Clerical** [60291.78] for {\$4992} Mr. Pshenishny 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Miller 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

**New Marlborough Rescue Salaries** [60291.80] for {\$20,250} Mrs. Spaulding 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Pshenishny 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

Mr. and Mrs. Krejci left the meeting at 7:15PM and the minutes for February 23<sup>rd</sup> were then discussed. Mr. Stalker stated that there was one section that he could not accept. This section was; "Mr. Stalker would like to receive monthly expenditures, however the committee members felt that this would cause a burden for the staff to prepare, and information about

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single items when needed could be requested. Mr. Carson stated that as the chairman requests of this nature should be channeled through him.” Mr. Stalker stated that the information that he requested was public knowledge and should be made available to him upon request. Mrs. Spaulding asked if he had made requests for information in writing and he assured her that he had. Mr. Carson stated that while he realized that information requested was public knowledge, but he also realized that the staff had legally ten days to provide it and that at that time it might not be relevant. Mr. Stalker stated that information he requested should be made available to him and not necessarily have to go through Mr. Carson since it is legally available to the public! Mr. Stalker still stated that the reporting on the February 23 minutes was inaccurate and agreed to write what he considered took place and that the committee could then vote on it and insert it as an amendment.

Mr. Stalker then stated that he was not comfortable with the vote on the **Interest** account since there was no information on what the interest payment actually was during 2016. Further questions needed to be asked before he would reapprove this budget!

The Committee then returned to the reviewing of the budgets. The only one available for review was Cemetery Expenses [20491.02] (\$2,700) now requesting {\$2,800}. This budget had been put on hold so that it could be itemized, which it now was, Mr. Pshenishny 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Stalker 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

A brief discussion took place because there were a large number of budgets that the Committee had not received. Mrs. White was making a list of these budgets and will give it to the Town Administrator as soon as she could. A discussion then took place about the next meeting. An important school meeting will take place on the Thursday night when our Finance Committee usually meets.

The next Finance Committee meeting will take place on Tuesday March 7th at 6:30PM.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Spaulding 1<sup>st</sup>, Mr. Pshenishny 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Prudence Spaulding, Secretary