

Finance Committee Minutes

March 7th 2017

The minutes for March 2nd were circulated at 6:35PM. In attendance were Mr. Mark Carson, Mr. Thomas Stalker, Mrs. Marilyn Fracasso, Mr. John Pshenishny, Mr. Robert Miller and Mrs. Prudence Spaulding. Guests were Mrs. Michele Shalaby, Mr. Richard Long, Mrs. Sandy Walker, Mrs. Marsha Pshenishny, and Ms. Mari Enoch. Mrs. Jennifer Miller came late to the meeting and left early. The meeting was called to order at 6:40PM the minutes for March 2nd were accepted as read, Mr. Robert Miller 1st, Mr. John Pshenishny 2nd passed unanimously. The minutes for February 23 (put on hold last week waiting for the amendments written by Mr. Stalker to be incorporated) remained on hold since Mr. Zukauskas (who had been quoted in the proposed amendment) was not present.

Mr. Stalker had been doing some research on revolving accounts and stated that he considered that the New Marlborough Rescue accounts should be considered "revolving accounts" and that there were some new regulations regarding these accounts. After a general discussion Mrs. Spaulding suggested that this information be shared with Ms. Enoch who is the Town Administrator and have her explore this situation and the way that other revolving accounts were operating. Mrs. Spaulding stated that the Comstar Account which acts as a holding account for the money brought in from the fees of people using the ambulance and the distributing of these funds for the costs of the ambulance service had been functioning for many years. Since the funds for the ambulance service were not raised and appropriated perhaps exploration of this situation might be left until after budget season was completed.

The committee then began reviewing budgets:-

Moderator [10114.00] (\$145) level funded {\$145}, Mr. Barry Shapiro is our current moderator. Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Pshenishny 2nd passed unanimously.

Website [10116.00] (\$2,425) level funded {\$2,425} back up information was included stating that the cost of the website and email hosting and support would be the same as last year, i.e. website \$2,075 plus email \$350. Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Miller 2nd passed unanimously.

Selectmen's Expenses [10122.01] (\$ 3,000) now requesting {\$2,800}, Mrs. Enoch was asked to itemize this request, which she did. Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Pshenishny 2nd passed unanimously.

Contingency [10133.02] (\$3,000) level funded {\$3,000}. Because this was a contingency fund

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and did not lend itself to itemization, it was not itemized. Mr. Stalker suggested that it be lowered to \$2,000, however Ms. Enoch stated that with the Broad Band activities she would feel more comfortable leaving it at \$3,000. Mr. Miller 1st, Mrs. Spaulding 2nd passed {\$3,000} with Mr. Stalker objecting.

Town Counsel [10124.00] (\$10,000) level funded {\$10,000}, Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Miller 2nd passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Software and Support [10147.88] (\$3,680) now requesting {\$4,000}. Mrs. Fracasso the Treasurer stated that the SOFTRIGHT with a name change to ACELLA providing this service stated that the cost would be increased, but could not provide the actual figures, so this is an estimate. Mr. Carson 1st, Mr. Miller 2nd passed with Mrs. Fracasso recusing.

Tax Title (Treasurer) [10149.00] (\$6,000) level funded {\$6,000} Mrs. Fracasso stated that she had not been involved in this type of activity, but Ms. Enoch described the needs for funds when delinquent tax payers were in the process of having their land taken. Because it is difficult to assess the number of such cases for the coming year the \$6,000 was an estimate to meet possible needs. Mr. Miller 1st, Mr. Carson 2nd passed unanimously.

Town Officer's Expenses [10192.07] (\$750) now requesting {\$200} Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mrs. Fracasso 2nd passed unanimously.

Town Officer's Bonds [10193.00] (\$1250) now requesting {\$1200} Mr. Carson 1st, Mrs. Fracasso 2nd passed unanimously.

Printing [10195.00] (\$2,000) level funded {\$2,000}. The committee upon review of the last three years expenditures raised the amount to {\$2,100}. Mr. Stalker, 1st, Mr. Miller 2nd passed unanimously.

School Committee Stipends [30000.00] (\$1500) level funded {\$1,500} Mr. Carson 1st, Mrs. Fracasso 2nd passed unanimously.

Animal Control Officer Expenses [60293.78] (\$4,833) level funded {\$4,833} Mr. Carson 1st, Mr. Miller 2nd passed unanimously.

Household Hazardous Waste [70439.00] (\$1,300) now requesting {\$1,200}, this program allows the citizens of our town to dispose of their hazardous waste at different collections points during the year. Mr. Carson 1st, Mr. John Pshenishny 2nd passed unanimously.

Transfer Station Expenses [70519.03] (\$69,000) now requesting {\$113,000}. Because the last three year's expenditures were for 2014 \$75,366.52; 2015 \$61,000; and 2016 \$59,602; and

this year from July 1st to January 1st 51.19% of the budget had been expended the Committee level funded the request for {\$69,000} Mr. Pshenishny 1st, Mr. Miller 2nd passed unanimously.

Stabilization Fund [90100.00] (\$0) now requesting {\$50,000} Mrs. Shalaby reminded the Committee that at the Town Meeting last year \$50,000 had been put in the Stabilization Fund as a transfer from Free Cash as voted by those attending Town meeting rather than raising and appropriating the funds. The Committee voted to fund this budget's request, Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Miller 2nd passed unanimously.

Reserve Fund [95781.00] (\$50,000) level funded {\$50,000} Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Miller 2nd passed unanimously.

Board of Health Expenses [70510.01] was put on hold and Mrs. Spaulding was asked to ask Mr. Larry Davis to come and explain the attached documentation.

At the close of the meeting Mrs. Spaulding suggested that the Committee review the Highway Department's Budget and the Police Budget at the next meeting and remarked that the Firemen's budget had not been submitted.

A motion to adjourn at 8:27PM by Mrs. Spaulding 1st, Mr. Pshenishny 2nd passed unanimously.

The next scheduled meeting will take place on Thursday March 16th at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Prudence Spaulding Secretary.