



# Meeting Minutes

## PROVINCETOWN FINANCE COMMITTEE

Judge Welsh Meeting Room - 1.00 pm

September 22, 2014

**Members Present:** Mike Canizales, Doug Cliggot, Duane Steele, Louise Venden, Mark Hatch, Clarence Walker, Stan Sikorski

**Others Present:** Dan Hoort, Finance Director

It was decided to table a warrant article regarding working with Sarah Peake on articles for charter change, taxing condos, and hiring a lobbyist. The Board feels more work needs to be done and that this should be brought to Spring Town Meeting.

There was discussion with Clarence Walker stating that we need an RFP from for Town Council hiring. He cites multiple problems with the former police chief's contract, and notes that the former Town Manager had refused to put out a bid for Town Council. There was much discussion over the hiring, paying, and overseeing of any Town Council selected.

Austin Knight spoke in favor of our current Town Council firm, stating that they had saved the Town hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years they have represented us.

Marcie Feller, Attorney, spoke regarding the percentages of types of law and hiring a firm that could handle it all. Bill Dougall also spoke about the need to study law firms and pick appropriately. Rick Murray stated similar thoughts.

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The discussion continued on the three articles to appear on special town meeting warrant with an agreement that the exact wording would be decided at a brief continuation of this meeting.

It was agreed by the Board that there needs to be more in depth study on affordable housing.

After much discussion regarding the volunteer search committee, recruiter, and applicants for the Town Manager's position, it was decided that if a viable candidate is not chosen at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting, there will be a new search. Louise Venden and Judy Cicero, both members of the volunteer search committee, spoke regarding the problems that the search committee faced in completing their task. A vote to use \$40,000 from free cash to fund another Town Manager search, if needed, passes by 7-0. Town Moderator, Mary Jo Avellar, stated that the Selectmen should have been the search committee because they would be working with the Town Manager.

The CIP was slated to be discussed with the voters and Board of Selectmen earlier so it could be included in the 10 year plan per Dan Hoort. Doug Cliggott stresses that this is a long term process that cannot be accomplished in a short amount of time. The Board will use their October 14<sup>th</sup> joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen to discuss CIP, the 10 year plan, and debts and liabilities. Furthermore, the Finance Committee will begin to inform the voters regarding these issues in a letter to the voters to be presented at Special Town Meeting.

Mike Canizales suggests that we use the first \$500,000 of free cash to pay the CIP stabilization fund. Doug Cliggott suggests that it be earmarked instead for a more concrete venture. He suggests road paving. Mike Canizales motions that the first \$500,000 of free cash be earmarked for road paving, seconded by Duane Steele, and passed 7-0.

In member statements, Stan Sikorski asked about possible resource sharing with Truro. Doug Cliggott questions the residency requirement for the police chief, town manager, and DPW director. Dan Hoort stated that the Board of Selectmen is advancing an article to exempt those three positions from residency requirement.

Meeting adjourned until Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

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**Respectfully submitted,**

**Maghi Geary**