

Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting, Tuesday, February 20, 2001 Judge Welsh Meeting Room, Town Hall, Provincetown, MA 02657

The following minutes are available on-line as a service and are not the official record due to changes in formatting for the Internet. The minutes may have attachments that are not included here in this format. The official, complete paper copy can be viewed during regular office hours, Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Office of the Town Clerk, 260 Commercial St. Provincetown, MA 02657.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bill Dougal at 4:05 P.M.

Those present were Chairman Bill Dougal, Sue Buerkel, Ruth Gilbert, Gordon Siegel, Jennifer Bedard, Gail Enos, and Rick Holland. Alice Foley was excused.

I. The minutes from February 13, 2001 were approved 5-0-1.

II. Bill Dougal handed out the following information

- February 16, 2001 memo from Town Manager concerning Expressions of Interest in Cape End Manor
- February 9, 2001 memo from Sandra Turner, Director of DPW Operations regarding Buildings & Grounds 2nd Quarterly Report
- Announcement that February 27, 2001 meeting with the School Committee has been changed to 5:30 P.M.-7:30 P.M.

III. Town Manager announced that town has reached a tentative agreement with AFSCME for Unit A which includes all town employees other than Cape End Manor which is Unit B.

IV. Bill Dougal read a memo from Jim Cole, Chairman of the Library Trustees requesting figures that were discussed by the Finance Committee at the February 13, 2001 meeting (which he attended) by February 26, 2001. It was decided that since it was just a preliminary discussion with estimated figures, Bill would call Jim and tell him that they would have to wait for the Library Trustees meeting with the Finance Committee.

Review of FY 2002 Budget and Articles

Division I General Government budgets

⇒ 113-Elections & Town Meetings

Ruth Gilbert made a motion, Rick Holland seconded and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 161-Town Clerk

Gordon Siegel made a motion, Rick Holland seconded and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 122-Board of Selectman

Increases were the result of \$1,000 stipends and increases so that all 5 members have the option to attend conferences. Some discussion as to whether Bd. Of Selectman could still be called volunteers because of stipends.

Rick Holland made a motion, Ruth Gilbert seconded and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 123-Town Manager

Sue Buerkel made a motion, Rick Holland seconded and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 151-Legal Services

Gordon Siegel made a motion, Gail Enos seconded and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 156-General Government Administration

Ruth Gilbert made a motion, Sue Buerkel seconded and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 169-Licensing

Gordon Siegel made a motion, Rick Holland seconded and it passed unanimously.

Robert Vetrick arrived at 4:55 P.M.

⇒ 171-Conservation Commission

Ruth Gilbert made a motion, Gordon Siegel seconded and it passed 7-0-1.

⇒ 173-Housing Partnership

Ruth Gilbert made a motion, Sue Buerkel seconded and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 174-LCP Implementation Advisory Committee

Robert Vetrick made a motion, Rick Holland seconded and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 175-Planning Board

Robert Vetrick made a motion, Gordon Siegel seconded and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 176-Zoning Board

Robert Vetrick made a motion, Sue Buerkel seconded and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 179-Historical Commission

Ruth Gilbert made a motion, Rick Holland seconded and it passed unanimously.

Irene Rabinowitz arrived at 5:00 P.M.

Division II Finance budgets

Keith Bergman introduced Director of Municipal Finance Bruce Miller, Asst. Town Manager Mark Latour, Treasurer Henryk Tyszka, and Director of MIS, Gary Delius.

⇒ 131-Finance Committee

Robert Vetrick made a motion, Sue Buerkel seconded and it passed unanimously.

Questions were raised by various committee members as to health insurance rate increases of 50-100% in various budgets especially since rates are possibly only going to increase by 22%.^[1] Keith Bergman said that he would check into the numbers. There was discussion that the goal is to stick to the Fiscal Plan so if it increases, cuts will have to be made elsewhere. Bill Dougal brought up the issue of when the expenditures on technology will be able to reduce staffing levels. Gary Delius responded that it was important to build an infrastructure which will take some time and that it's not really possible to know at this point when staffing would be affected. Keith Bergman suggested deferring vote on 910-Retirement/Benefits/Insurance since they know the numbers would change.

There was some question as to whether votes on 135, 136 and 145 should be deferred because of health insurance rates but Irene Rabinowitz pointed out that the committee is only voting on A & B budgets and that indirect costs are only there for informational purposes.

Gary Delius gave an extremely detailed and articulate presentation of MIS Coordination (136) which seeking a 307% budget increase. Rick Holland suggested trying to make deals with software providers as a way to lower costs. Bill Dougal stated that he would eventually like to see all town departments MIS budgets be folded into MIS Coordination.

⇒ 135-Town Accountant

⇒ 136-MIS Coordination

⇒ 145-Treasurer/Collector

were all voted on together. Gordon Siegel made a motion, Irene Rabinowitz seconded, and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 141-Board of Assessors

Ruth Gilbert made a motion, Sue Buerkel seconded, and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 710-Debt Service

Keith Bergman made a request to defer a vote so he could recalculate figures.

Robert Vetrick made a motion, Rick Holland seconded and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 820-Tax Title

A copy of list was requested and handed out to committee members.

Robert Vetrick made a motion, Ruth Gilbert seconded and it passed unanimously.

⇒ 910-Retirement/Benefits/Insurance

Keith Bergman requested deferring a vote until they see what the increase will be.

Ruth Gilbert made a motion, Robert Vetrick seconded and it passed unanimously.

V. A general discussion ensued as to the approach the committee would take in its meeting with the School Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Lutsky

Recording Secretary

[1] See February 6th & 13th memo on possible Group Health Insurance Rates