



Finance Committee

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
 August 16, 2010 @ 4:00 pm
 Larkin Hall at the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies
 Called to Order: 4:00 PM

Membership:

P	E	U	Name	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Thomas Coen, Chair	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ann Maguire, Vice Chair	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Thomas Thurston	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gabrielle Hanna	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	David McChesney	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Erik Yingling	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Donegan	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Open)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Open)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oliver Kamm, Alternate	<input type="checkbox"/> Voting
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	(Open), Alternate	<input type="checkbox"/> Voting

(Note: P = Present E = Excused U = Unexcused)

These minutes are in brief format. This meeting was filmed and is available for viewing at <http://www.provincetowntv.org/> or on DVD at the Provincetown Television office.

Also Present:	
Linda O'Brien, Treasurer	
Dan Hoort, Finance Director	
David Gardner, Asst. Town Mgr.	
Pam Hudson, Benefits Manager	

<p>Order of Business:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public Statements. 2. November Special Town Meeting schedule of meetings and milestones.

3. Medicare for retirees: proposed Special Town Meeting warrant articles.
4. Open Meeting Law update.
5. Proposed Finance Committee Code of Conduct.
6. Proposed Finance Committee Email Communications Policy.
7. Minutes of prior meetings.
8. Any other business that may legally come before the Finance Committee.

Public Statements

(None.)

November Special Town Meeting schedule of meetings and milestones

The Chair reviewed the schedule of meetings and milestones leading up to the November 8 Special Town Meeting.

Medicare for retirees: proposed Special Town Meeting warrant articles

Review of applicable law: Chapter 32B Section 18 of the General Laws of Massachusetts that enables towns to transition retirees to Medicare. And the review of the new law (Section 18a) that allows towns to create a distinction between current and future retirees.

Discussion of 1982 Town Meeting Article 61 that provides the Town contribute 80% of current and retired employee health costs. Applies to insurance premiums and presumably Medicare, but may require a new enabling Article to establish an 80% / 20% Medicare Part B premium split should Medicare be included as permitted in section 18. Likewise; the Town can't pay Medicare directly, so a reimbursement scheme will need to be created.

A Town retiree, Linda DiBenedetto has called some 34 towns to see how they have handled section 18 for retiree health care. Her report suggested that conclusions are difficult to draw, but it appears that jurisdictions have handled health care costs variously. Ms DiBenedetto’s survey will continue and further updates to FinCom are expected.

Ms. Hudson reviewed current state of health care benefits: Section 18 Fact Sheet. As snapshot in time, updated figures will be provided at future FinCom meeting.

The FinCom opted not to take a position until members better understand impact on retirees and the definition of ‘comparable coverage’

The meeting adjourned for a break at 5:47 and resumed its session 5:52.

Open Meeting Law Update

The Chair reviewed changes to Massachusetts Open Meeting Law. Changes include meeting notice hours include only those days government is open, agenda and minute requirements, and revisions to definitions of meetings within the context of a coincidental public gathering.

Proposed Finance Committee Code of Conduct

The Chair reviewed proposed Code of Conduct, with clarifying comments on the preserving the privileges of the FinCom to access information throughout town government, boards and enterprises as well as the appropriate expressions of dissent from the majority position.

Motion #1 : To adopt the Code of Conduct, as amended, for the Finance Committee.			
Motion By: Tom Donegan		Second By: Ann Maguire	
For: 5	Against: 0	Abstain: 0	Recuse: 0

Proposed Finance Committee Email Communications Policy

The Chair has dropped this initiative due to various logistical and legal complications. The use of email is covered by the Open Meeting Law.


Minutes

Motion #2 : To approve the minutes of the Finance Committee for July 13 2010 meeting .			
Motion By: Tom Donegan		Second By: Ann Maguire	
For: 4	Against: 0	Abstain: 1	Recuse: 0

Other Business

(None).

Next Meeting:	August 23, 2010 @ 5:00 pm
Adjourn:	6:14
Minutes by:	Tom Donegan

Approved by  on December 2, 2010
 Thomas Coen, Chair