

Finance Committee Meeting

Minutes – March 3, 2014

Town Hall, Lower Level Hearing Room, 7:30 P.M.

Members Present: Patricia-Lee Achorn, Aaron Agulnek, William Brack, Arnold Cohen (late), Gordon Gladstone, Ira Miller, Edward Philips (Hamilton)

Absent: Charles Goodman, Alexander Korin, Laura Nelson

1. The first item on the agenda was to review the School Department budget.
2. Tim Farmer, Superintendent, stated that their budget process begins in the late fall and they look at strategic plans. There was a 2.38% increase over the FY'14 budget. There were changes made with a savings of \$180,000.
3. Glenn Brand, Assistant Superintendent, provided an overview. The School Committee voted for a 2.38% increase over FY'14, \$38M. There is a contingency allocation resource effort to knowing and continuing increase in enrollment. A slight decrease in new students moving in which would allow for reasonable class sizes for next year.
4. There was considerable discussion regarding the School Department budget, number of FTEs, and increased duties of the teachers.
5. The next item on the agenda was to review the Planning Board's FY'15 budget.
6. Pat Pannone, Chair, Planning Board, stated that their budget of \$13,600, which was the same for the past four years, would be adequate.
7. There was some discussion regarding the Brickstone presentation to the Planning Board. There will be a public hearing on March 26 and possibly April 9. The Planning Board needs the appraisal and the financial impact statement.
8. At the next meeting, Town Counsel, Richard Gelerman, will update the Finance Committee on the Development Agreement and provide the draft appraisal from the consultant. The Community Preservation Committee would be in a position to set up the review process.
9. The next item on the agenda was to review the Board of Appeal's FY'15 budget.
10. John Lee, Chair, Board of Appeal, stated that last year's budget was \$22,000. This amount was adequate, and they would only request a Reserve Fund Transfer for legal fees.
11. There was some discussion regarding Rattlesnake Hill and that there was a permit issued for 120 units for 40b.
12. The next item on the agenda was Paul Lauenstein, Citizen Petition, with a Resolution on water conservation, renewable energy sources, and reduction of carbon emissions.

13. There was discussion held on this article and a suggestion to work with the Energy Advisory Committee.
14. The next item on the agenda was to vote the minutes of prior meetings.
15. A **MOTION** was made by Ted Philips and **SECONDED** by Arnie Cohen to approve the minutes of August 26, 2013.
16. **VOTED:** 5-0-2. For: Achorn, Brack, Cohen, Miller, Philips. Abstain: Agulnek, Gladstone.
17. A **MOTION** was made by Ted Philips and **SECONDED** by Arnie Cohen to approve the minutes of September 9, 2013.
18. **VOTED:** 5-0-2. For: Achorn, Brack, Cohen, Miller, Philips. Abstain: Agulnek, Gladstone.
19. A **MOTION** was made by Ted Philips and **SECONDED** by Arnie Cohen to approve the minutes of September 16, 2013.
20. **VOTED:** 5-0-2. For: Achorn, Brack, Cohen, Miller, Philips. Abstain: Agulnek, Gladstone.
21. A **MOTION** was made by Aaron Agulnek and **SECONDED** by Arnie Cohen to approve the minutes of September 23, 2013.
22. **VOTED:** 3-0-4. For: Agulnek, Cohen, Miller. Abstain: Achorn, Brack, Gladstone, Philips.
23. A **MOTION** was made by Ted Philips and **SECONDED** by Arnie Cohen to approve the minutes of September 30, 2013.
24. **VOTED:** 6-0-1. For: Achorn, Agulnek, Brack, Cohen, Miller, Philips. Abstain: Gladstone.
25. A **MOTION** was made by Ted Philips and **SECONDED** by Arnie Cohen to approve the minutes of October 7, 2013.
26. **VOTED:** 6-0-1. For: Achorn, Agulnek, Brack, Cohen, Miller, Philips. Abstain: Gladstone.
27. A **MOTION** was made by Ted Philips and **SECONDED** by Arnie Cohen to approve the Executive Session minutes of October 7, 2013.
28. **VOTED:** 6-0-1. For: Achorn, Agulnek, Brack, Cohen, Miller, Philips. Abstain: Gladstone.
29. The next meeting will be March 10, 2014.
30. It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** to adjourn.
31. **VOTED:** 7-0-0.
32. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.