

Finance Committee Meeting  
Minutes – December 1, 2014  
Town Hall, Lower Level Hearing Room, 7:30 P.M.

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

1. The first item on the agenda was to review the Town Meeting results.
2. Ira Miller stated that the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen were together with their recommendations, passed everything and everything passed.
3. There was some discussion regarding the Southeastern Regional School Stabilization Fund article and a suggestion to have Mindy Kempner come in and go over the budget and budget process of Southeastern Regional Vocational District School.
4. The next item regarded the operating capital budget and proposed budget.
5. The Finance Committee sector budgets: Conservation Commission, Finance Committee, Health Department, Lake Management, Planning Board, Town Clerk, Zoning Board of Appeals. No Personnel, a small budget.
6. Fred Turkington presented the scheduled timetable: Operating budget, Town Meeting. Dates and session for budget review. Town and School side. Spaced it out better to ensure adequate time. Budget article. February budget review. Board of Selectmen in January. Estimate funds available by Finance Director. Selectmen's sector budget review with two in January and one in February. Warrant closes on January 29. Question whether to schedule fall Town Meeting. Take memo under advisement. If something came up, would schedule in fall, early November, if one was necessary. Delay scheduling unless time sensitive, like purchase of Pond Street. Any boards working on articles try to do for Annual. Still waiting to hear from Auditors if that will work. Management comments. See if Cindy is ready for mid-January. Capital Outlay end of January. Spreadsheets on various projects. Debt schedule next several years. Reduce debt financing. Mondays in February for Finance Committee. See size of budget. Feedback. Time spent on budget review.
7. There was considerable discussion regarding the schedule and some suggestions for date changes to allow more time for review and write-up of recommendations. Warrant due at printer April 8. Need time to review School Department budget. Suggestion to work on debt schedule for Capital Outlay and long-term strategic planning.
8. Finance Committee to send same budget memo to their sector as the Selectmen's sector memo. Use same format. Suggestion to start health care review early. Get Priorities information early to start review process in February.
9. The next item was the status of the comparable towns and how to get a list for this budget process.
10. There was a suggestion to have a meeting on January 5 to review drafting of model and have a target date of mid-January. Fred Turkington would work on this with Laura Nelson and Alex Korin.

11. The next meeting will be December 15, 2014, for a Priorities update.

12. It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** to adjourn.

13. **VOTED:** 10-0-0.

14. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.