

Finance Committee Meeting
Minutes – July 13, 2015
Town Hearing Room, Sharon Community Center
Regular Session, 7:30 P.M.

Members Present: Patricia-Lee Achorn, William Brack, Arnold Cohen (late), Gordon Gladstone, Charles Goodman, Ira Miller, Ted Phillips, Hanna Switekowski,

Absent: Aaron Agulnek, Alexander Korin, Laura Nelson, Steve Ross

1. A transfer of funds from Treasurer's Salaries to County Tax (\$472) and Veterans (\$900) was presented by Cindy Daugherty, Finance Director. A **MOTION** was made in support of the transfer by Gordon Gladstone, **SECONDED** by Ted Phillips and approved by a vote of 7-0-0.
2. Fred Turkington, Town Administrator, presented an update to the Peer Town Analysis by prefacing with a discussion of the difficulty of identifying a peer group when 45% of Sharon is open land, lake, Audubon, protected or otherwise set aside. The key elements for peer towns are: population, income, property value, students as percent of population and population density.
3. The September 10th Joint Meeting discussion included a desire to include FY 17 and 5-year planning. The following information is being requested by the FinCom: updated Priorities Sheet, current budgets, debt schedule (with projections for schools, town hall, and fire station), programmatic initiatives (with long-term impact), narrative on economic development (e.g. Gallery at Sharon), one-time revenues, tax base analysis, allocation of fixed and uncontrollable by Sector.
4. Goals for the meeting include: strategically planning sustainability, consistent information & understanding across Boards and a current services process for budgeting.
5. The Selectmen e expected to make a decision on calling a 2015 Special Town Meeting at the next BOS meeting. So far, no time-sensitive issues have materialized. Possible items include: Civil Services for Police, Heights roof, transfer of 1 School Street from Schools to BOS, and playing fields improvements.
6. Chairman Brack announced that the Finance Committee appointees to Priorities for FY16 are Ira Miller and Charles Goodman and that the Finance Committee appointees to Capital Outlay are Gordon Gladstone and Alex Korin with Ted Philips alternate. Fred Turkington indicated that he will add to the email distribution for Priorities any FinCom meeting who requests the information.
7. There was a short discussion of the recruitment efforts for a FinCom Secretary.
8. Approval of minutes was deferred.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.