DRAFT

Minutes- December 14th, 2015

Town Hearing Room, Community Center, 219 Massapoag Avenue

Attended: Hannah Switlekowski, Charles Goodman, Ira Miller, Pat Lee-Achorn, Arnold Cohen, William Brack, Alexander Korin and Gordon Gladstone.

Absent: Laura Nelson, Steven Ross, Edward Philips and Aaron Agulnek.

1. **Appointment with Town Medical Insurance Consultant**

Peter Savage, Town Medical Insurance Consultant provided the Finance Committee with worksheets including trust numbers over the last several years and his projection for 2016. There was no new rate increase overall in the last three years however, this year there may be a hiccup in regards to cash flow, administration fees and reinsurance premiums. Currently it was decided that Sharon is in a very healthy spot with a positive balance. Beginning in January of 2016 there will be a modification to the retiree plans called an egg whip plan. An overall net savings will come into affect due to these changes and a summary of coverage will be given to the Finance Committee so they are able to see the design plan.

**II. Appointment with Tim Farmer**

Tim Farmer, Superintendent provided a follow up from the September joint meeting. Veronica Anastasio Wiseman, Chair of the School Committee as well as Laura Salomons, School Committee Board member were present. There is an expectation of a one million dollar capital investment next year in which the Heights roof design is included. Sharon High School will be begin around the summer but could still take two to three years before it finishes. There has also been a discussion regarding lighting at the Cottage Street Elementary School as well as the request for a new heating system at East Elementary. By Wednesday, December 23rd, 2015 a very preliminary budget will be discussed and later expanded on in January 2016 on the 6th. During the open forum on January 20th, the public will provide feedback and then the Finance Committee will be able to see exact plans.

**III. Discussion and Vote on Selection of Vendor to Support Communication of Budget and Town Finances with ClearGov and VisGov**

Fred Turkington and Cindy Doherty discussed their conversation with the IT director and the easiness of formatting in Excel for both companies products. The concerns regarding ClearGov and its manipulation were brought forward and although it is better for visual effect it was not chosen as the vendor to better support communication of budget and town finances. VisGov provides real numbers and will allow for the town website and Facebook page to be included in their material as well. Overall, VisGov was chosen as the final vendor and the Finance Committee asked Fred Turkington to ask Alan Jones, of VisGov, to look at a possible mobile app and a way to compared its information to nearby towns.

**MOTION** for VisGov by Gordon Gladstone **SECONDED** by Pat Lee-Achorn **VOTED** 7-1-0

**IV. Priorities update from Fred Turkington**

Fred Turkington, Town Administrator began the discussion around the final parties worksheet for a spring baseline. He went on to discuss projections for FY 2017 and the few adjustments that were made including local receipts, local revenues and excise taxes. It was found that Sharon spent approximately $200,000 less on property taxes and they are looking at a budget of about $50,000 for health funds. Overall the tax rate went down and the assessments went up.

**V. Other Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated**

Next Meeting is tentatively on Monday, January 11th, 2016.

**VI. Adjournment**

**MOTION** by William Brack **SECONDED** by Hannah Switlekowski 7-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.