



FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 24, 1990

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:30 pm.

Present: M. Brown, J. Desrochers, M. Hackett, P. Helmreich,
B. Kimball, C. MacQuown, R. Nugent, D. Ward

D. Ward moved that the minutes of the January 8, 1990 meeting be accepted.

Seconded

Correction: Page 2, State Aid shortage of \$7,000 should be corrected to \$70,000.

Unanimous

D. Ward moved that the minutes of the January 10, 1990 meeting be accepted.

C. MacQuown Seconded

Unanimous

Discussion of STM

Discussion of No Quorum article approval. Will take approx. 90 days for the Attorney General's approval.

R. Nugent notes S. Lombard's request to make the upper level conference room into the Inspection Dept and for the Finance Committee to use other meeting rooms, planning room.

Discussion of table ownership.

Discussion of adequate meeting space.

PERSONNEL

Expense budget

Salary increased by 6½%

Expenses, supplies and printing remain level.

F. Celeste notes Town Manager may replace the Board, therefore, budget would be for future appointed board.

Review of salaries. Discussion of Middle Management Union salaries.

F. Celeste requests copies of S. Lombard's survey

DOG OFFICER

Salary increased by 6.5%. The Dog Officer stated that she does not feel it is a fair salary. She noted her position of 30 hrs includes 24 hour coverage. She also performs animal control and has done it for 10 years. She also notes the Town's saving not needing a public kennel. She has spent \$6,000 updating her kennel.

Expenses

The Dog Officer notes that she gets paid for keeping dogs for 10 days but she usually keeps many longer to try to find homes. Mrs. Fogarty also notes time for court cases.

Mrs. Fogarty also notes the need for a Town vehicle with Town insignia and lights etc.

Discussion of problems.

P. Helmreich questions increase in expenses. He requests actual expenditures for past 3 years.

Care and custody includes care of animals, \$5/day for 10 days.

Supplies includes dog food.

Review of licenses - the Town Clerk keeps track through department's computer.

Mrs. Fogarty also notes need for Assistant. Cost of approx \$25 per week. She notes animal inspector would cover vacations and return calls. This would enable the job to be done right.

The Dog Officer does receive sick time, vacation, but notes she needs to still take care of animals and answer phones.

C. MacDonald notes Southeastern School budget would not be certified until February 13th.

Requested to keep budget hearing on the 12th.

CEMETERY

Salaries were level funded

Superintendent - Middle Management Union - F91 \$28,222.50

Laborer - 40 hours - has been before the Personnel Board and they will make their recommendations

Review of seasonal employees

Hicks fund - \$5,000 per year which will pay for seasonal labor.

Perpetual care interest - \$800 per month used for seasonal part time, paving, capital improvements, and full timer's overtime.

P. Helmreich questions reducing budget.

Discussion

The Cemetery department generates funds which go to E&D:

grave openings - \$150

foundations for monuments

Expenses

J. Watson notes most of expenditures are done in Spring, early Summer.

C. MacQuown notes funds for equipment companies.

J. Watson notes purchase order system.

P. Helmreich notes open purchase order system

Uniform allowance in past years has been equivalent to the Highway Department.

Request \$5,299 which included leaf vac. Price quote of \$175.

P. Helmreich notes need for land.

J. Watson notes just meeting demand for 5 years is questionable.

Priority of equipment: 1. plywood/planks; 2. mowers; 3. hoses;

4. weed eater; 5. backhoe

HIGHWAY

Snow budget

C. Jacobs notes expenditures of \$37,000 to date.

Discussion of reserve account if another storm and to come back to Committee or to send a letter.

Review of overspending account and reduction on cherry sheet.

D. Ward requests transferring to department.
B. Kimball notes problems with transferring funds before needed.
Salaries
Superintendent is under the Personnel Board
Labor contract - 7% increase. Labor force is skeleton crew
same number as prior to Prop 2½ cuts.
Expenses
Includes \$3,000 for police details due to major traffic upset.
Snow
To raise back to original, \$55,000.
Repair to Private Ways
\$3,000 for grater and calcium chloride. Surface treatment to
private ways, asphalt, sand.
Highway Department capital expenditures
1) 1991 Cab and chasis - \$28,000
2) Sander body - \$12,500
To retire '66 international. Need to have articles on Spring
ATM, Fall ATM will be too late to change over.
3) Drainage on Plain Street, between Burt and Leonard Sts.

B. Nugent notes revised Collector/Treasurer budget.

Agenda changes:

additions to 1-29-90 meeting:

add transfer requests for Town Clerk and Inspection Dept
add STM deliberations

Financial Meeting of 1-24-90:

Free cash	\$ 635,136	certified
Levy limit	8,677,798	
New Growth	210,000	estimate
Receipts	1,400,000	estimate
State aid	- 286,750	estimate 5,448,250 5% reduction
Budget offset	1,000,000	school insurance reimbursement
	40,000	Hicks fund
	48,578	nonsettled contracts
	50,000	overlay surplus
	42,879	reserve trust account
	1,000,000	stabilization
Expenses	1,000,000	Solmonese school repairs
	147,757	Jan 22 STM
	130,147	Cherry sheet offsets
	5,000	overlay deficit
	300,000	overlay reserve
Total funds		
available	\$ 17,152,118	

Discussion of Wrentham case regarding medical insurance costs.

P. Helmreich notes must look at all alternatives including override which there is currently room under Prop 2½ limits.

C. MacQuown notes article in other Towns consolidating communication services.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:55 pm until 1-29-90 at approximately 7:30 pm.