

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2007

Those Present: Al DeVito - chair, Richard Knabel, Skip Manter and Brian Athearn.

Guests: Bruce Stone, Town Accountant; Jeremiah Brown, Tree Warden; Glenn Hearn, Selectman.

This meeting was taped for airing on MVTV

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m.

Tonight's meeting began the review of warrant articles requiring recommendation by the Fin-Com.

Article 4:

Article 4 asks the voters to raise and appropriate \$6,500 to spray certain town areas for caterpillar outbreaks this May. Mr. Brown explained that \$500 is for regular spraying and the remaining \$6,000 is for the expected caterpillar outbreak this May. He plans to spray in the following four areas: the Lambert's Cove Beach path, the Town Hall, the Howes House and the Public Safety Building. He has already requested \$6k for his FY08 budget, but needs that same amount for this year. When asked how many years trees can be defoliated before they die, Mr. Brown responded that four years would probably be all a tree could take and that we are now in the third year of moth/caterpillar damage. He noted that it would be hugely more expensive to remove dead trees than to spray. Mr. Brown plans to get five bids for the job and will have that amount in time for the April town meeting. Discussion ensued as to the pros and cons of increasing the amount in the warrant article noting that warrant money carries over for 5 years whereas budget money does not carry over. Finally, a motion was made and seconded to recommend Article 4 as written. The motion passed 4-0.

Article 43:

Article 43 asks the voters to release 9 town-owned parcels of land on Stoney Hill Path to be used for affordable housing. Mr. Hearn presented maps showing the Stoney Hill sub-division (1928) and explained that this land has been land courted and as such has a certified deed that prevents anyone from laying claim to the property. The area of this 9-parcel site is app. 3 acres. Though the town clearly owns the property, there might be access issues. Mr. Hearn clarified that this warrant article only asks for permission for the Affordable Housing Committee to investigate the feasibility of developing this site for Affordable Housing. If there are irresolvable access issues, the committee will not continue to pursue this project. He further explained that the Affordable Housing Committee has funding to cover expenses in the initial stage. A motion was made and seconded to recommend Article 43. The motion passed 4-0.

The committee then reviewed the entire warrant.

Article 2 - no action

Article 3 - postpone discussion

Article 4 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 5 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 6 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 7 - postpone discussion
Article 8 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 9 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 10 - postpone discussion
Article 11 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 12 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 13 - the members would like to see the original language - voted to recommend 4-0
w/ changes
Article 16 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 17 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 18 - postpone discussion
Article 19 - no action
Article 20 - no action
Article 21 - postpone discussion
Article 22 - postpone discussion
Article 23 - postpone discussion
Article 24 - postpone discussion
Article 25 - postpone discussion
Article 26 - postpone discussion
Article 27 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 28 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 29 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 30 - postpone discussion
Article 31 - postpone discussion
Article 32 - postpone discussion
Article 33 - postpone discussion
Article 34 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 35 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 36 - voted to recommend 3-1
Article 37 - postpone discussion
Article 38 - postpone discussion
Article 39 - postpone discussion
Article 40 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 41 - postpone discussion
Article 42 - postpone discussion
Article 43 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 44 - not ready
Article 45 - voted to recommend 4-0
Article 46 - postpone discussion

Minutes:

The minutes of February 6 were approved 3-0-1.

Al announced there will be a meeting of the All-Island FinCom on March 12 at the Tisbury Senior Center.

Bruce informed the members of the following updates to the budget: the UIRSD and LDO have gone down; Veterans' Benefits have gone up; Cemetery decreased by \$1,000; Health Insurance decreased by \$17,500; and Short-term Interest decreased by \$1,700.

There being no other business, a motion for adjournment was made and seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Rogers, Administrative Clerk