

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2010  
7:00 P.M.**

**SANDWICH PUBLIC LIBRARY  
142 MAIN STREET  
LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROMM #2**  
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Present: Bill Diederling, Tom Hickey, Paul Sylvia, Paul Kilty, Ellen Yaffe and Phillip (Chip) Cheney

Absent: Glenn Pare', John Vibberts and Courtney Bridge.

Also Present: Town Manager George H. Dunham; Selectmen Jim Pierce and Linell Grundman; Mary Stanley of the Enterprise; SCT

**ITEM #1**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Diederling Chaired the meeting in Mr. Pare's absence.

Mr. Diederling introduced Mr. Phillip (Chip) Cheney – newest member of the Committee.

**ITEM #2**

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of Tuesday, February 23 –

At the bottom of page 2 change \$333,000 to read\* - \$300,000 annually and delete the remainder of the sentence.

**\*MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. YAFFE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2010 AS AMENDED. SECONDED BY MR. SYLVIA. VOTE – UNANIMOUS ABSTENTION – CHIP CHENEY.**

**ITEM #3**

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

a. Mr. Dunham handed out the FY'11 Budget Binders and gave an overview. Section 1- Revenues and Expenses sheets; Section 2 – Financial History, Projections & Analysis information; Section 3 is Capital Budget information; Section 4 is the FY'11 Budget on CD; Section 5 is the FY'11 Budget Totals, Recommended General Government Budget and breakdowns of each budget by line items; Section 6 can be used for the School Dept. budget; Section 8 can be used for the Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School budget.

Mr. Diederling thanked Mr. Dunham for a great job.

b. Mr. Dunham noted that Town Treasurer Craig Mayen and Town Accountant Doreen Guild brought a couple of minor budget items to his attention which he will correct according. Summary documents will be updated as needed but nothing has changed since the last Finance Committee meeting. The Board of Selectmen voted at the February 25 meeting to support the numbers as presented on the summary sheets

Mr. Diederling noted that the Finance Committee needs to approve a budget by April 1.

It was noted that the Upper Cape Cod Regional Technical School budget final submission has not been received at this time.

Mr. Dunham mentioned that he and Human Resources Director Marie Buckner and Town Treasurer Craig Mayen attended a meeting recently on health care. There may be some changes to that account. The County Retirement numbers are not in at this time. According to the Town Treasurer we should be getting them any day now. There is a \$174,000 deficit in the Snow & Ice Account.

Mr. Hickey asked when the Committee will be getting the numbers from **UCCRTS**.

Mr. Dunham noted that those numbers usually come later in March. The numbers on the summary sheet should be about what it will be. The operating budget is based on enrollment, which we have to pay by law. The capital budget is a total of the K-12 school enrollment numbers in the individual towns. These numbers are almost impossible to overturn.

Ms. Yaffe had questions about the maintenance of Town roads. The budget is level funded. Is there a plan in place as to what would be necessary to maintain roads in decent condition and how far will the FY' 11 budget go.

Mr. Dunham and noted that there is a roads management plan and offered that road bonds are options but that requires town meeting approval. The cost falls off every 5 or 10 years depending on how long we bond a project for. We use Chapter 90 funding from the State. Cotuit Road was a recent large project. Mr. Tilton, Director of Department of Public Work/Town Engineer can come to a meeting and give a thorough presentation.

Mr. Kilty would like to have an opportunity to talk with department heads about their budgets and to get an idea of what the impacts will be on the community.

General discussion that the Police & Fire Departments and the DPW may be invited to attend a meeting on Marc 16 and the Schools would be invited to attend a meeting on March 23. The Committee will plan to take a vote on a budget on March 30.

Ms. Yaffe suggested that the Committee needs another Community Preservation Committee presentation sometime before Town Meeting on May 3.

Mr. Dunham noted that we have an Interim Chief of Police and Sgt. Mike Nurse, who has a lot to do with the budget, is serving in Afghanistan. Mr. Tilton can be prepared to give an overview of the roads management program, solid waste issues and SEMASS update.

**c.** Mr. Dunham mentioned that the next **Capital Improvement Planning Committee** meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 15, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. at Town Hall (Oak Crest Cove) to go through some school building issues. The Schools are currently the main point of this meeting although other items may be discussed.

Brief discussion regarding the need/or lack thereof to hire a consultant to gather information about the public safety buildings. It was noted that the Committee would need to know what a study like that could tell us.

Mr. Kilty asked, regarding the CIPC meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>, if the CIPC is planning to come to a Finance Committee meeting? Mr. Diederling noted that when they gave the presentation at the Selectmen's meeting recently, it was also posted as a Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Kilty noted that this information is very important. The capital needs in the Town have been under-addressed for a long time. It is going to be a major issue on the town meeting warrant. It was agreed to have the CIPC come in to a meeting some time in April before the Committee makes a statement of support for town meeting. Ms. Yaffe and Mr. Hickey asked what items fell below line. Mr. Diederling asked...in general what things are not getting funded appropriately.

The Committee thanked Mr. Dunham for all his efforts.

**ITEM #4**  
**ADJOURN**

**7:50 p.m.**

**\*MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY MS. YAFFE . SECONDED BY MR. KILTY . VOTE – UNANIMOUS.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane M. Hanelt  
Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

