

Town Clerk



**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
March 7, 2012**

7:00 P.M.
Sandwich Town Hall
130 Main Street
Sandwich, MA 02563

Present: Paul Sylvia; John Vibberts; Linda Bliss; Gene Parini; Thomas Hickey; Courtney Bridge and Paul Kilty.

Staff: George "Bud" Dunham, Town Manger; Doreen Guild, Town Accountant; Paul Tilton, Director of Public Works/Town Engineer and John Johnson, Golf Director

Mr. Sylvia called the meeting to order.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Mr. Vibberts moved the minutes of February 14, 2012 be approved as written. Mr. Parini seconded. Approved with Ms. Bliss and Ms. Bridge abstaining.

Sandwich Hollows Golf Club ~ John Johnson

Mr. Dunham directed the committee to the Sandwich Hollows budget. He explained the budget decreases and explained in order to meet his budget, Mr. Johnson has had to cut expenses including staffing.

Mr. Johnson provided a handout to the committee regarding fees and blueprints for renovations. He told the committee about an RFP currently in process for a possible recreational facility to be located on a portion of the property. Mr. Dunham gave a brief history of restrictions placed on the property. Recreational uses are an approved use. Mr. Parini asked who prepared the RFP. Mr. Dunham explained it was primarily prepared by Mr. Lapp along with input from Mr. Johnson, Recreation Director Guy Boucher and Mr. Dunham.

Ms. Bridge asked if the new food and beverage vendor is doing well. Mr. Johnson affirmed that where the prior vendor made \$30,000 in a year, the new vendor has made \$46,000 in 8 months and paid for a portion of the utilities. Mr. Dunham added that the current vendor has a schedule and menu that is more in keeping with the golf membership. He also noted that the new group has done a lot of renovation.

Mr. Dunham further described other features of the clubhouse still facing renovation. The heat is still electric as the cost to hook up to gas is prohibitive at this time. Installing the elevator is also cost prohibitive although some alternatives are being reviewed.

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Mr. Johnson noted his budget is down over this past year. They need to focus on the senior membership and finding a way to attract blue collar workers. The new food service is a positive but with last year's weather (there was snow on the ground Dec. 2010 – April 2011) receipts were way down. This winter has been much better weather-wise and revenues are up 8%.

Department of Public Works/Town Engineer ~ Paul Tilton

Mr. Tilton gave his presentation. He provided the committee with handouts. He first gave an update on the transfer station. They are short on projections for the "pay as you throw" program. The reason for this is that recycling is higher than expected. Mr. Tilton discussed the future of the transfer station. He mentioned SWAC (Solid Waste Advisory Committee) as a Cape-wide group who are determining the future disposal of solid waste on Cape Cod. There are other options to SEMASS. The Upper Cape Regional Transfer Station is considering options to address solid waste disposal of the 4 Upper Cape Towns.

Mr. Tilton discussed his handout on Road Infrastructure. He noted that currently, the pavement budget is used primarily on repairs to pot holes, berms, sidewalks and parking lots. The last time the Town had a road bond approved was 1996. There is currently a backlog of 53 drainage projects. Current funding and staff levels within the DPW allow for only 2 to 3 of these projects per year. Mr. Dunham said if a road bond were presented and considered, it could include parking lots and access roads.

Mr. Tilton also included in his handout the PCI (pavement condition index) which is a "grade" for the overall road conditions. A grade of 90 indicates good conditions and a 60 is failing. In 2006, Sandwich had a PCI of 86. The current grade is 75.

After some discussion regarding the numbers indicated in the various handouts, the committee thanked Mr. Tilton for his time and his presentation.

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Dunham noted he has reworked his numbers regarding Additional General Government Budget Needs. He directed the committee to page 23 of his 3/5/12 draft. Mr. Dunham also noted the School Department will present to the Finance Committee next week. The Upper Cape Tech School will present at a future date.

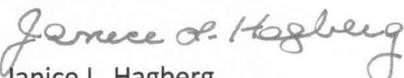
Committee Updates

None.

Adjournment

Ms. Bliss moved to adjourn. Mr. Kilty seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,


Janice L. Hagberg

Approved 1/22/13

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Documentation:

DPW ~ Transfer Station Report/March 2012

DPW Needs Assessment/March 2012

Road Infrastructure Report/March 2012

Sandwich Hollows ~ Annual Memberships and Fees/Clubhouse Information

Town Manager ~ Draft Budgets/DPW/Sandwich Hollows dated 3/5/12.