

TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF SANDWICH

AUG 29 2012

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MINUTES
OF THE
FINANCE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2012
7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL
130 MAIN STREET

Present: Bill Diederling, Paul Sylvia, John Vibberts, Paul Kilty, Linda Bliss, Gene Parini, Tom Hickey, Courtney Bridge, Ellen Yaffe

Also Present: Town Manager George Dunham; Town Accountant Doreen Guild; Capital Improvement Planning Committee members John Juros and S. Michael Baker; Selectmen Jim Pierce and Linell Grundman; Superintendent of Schools Richard Canfield; School Committee representative Susan Sundermeyer, SCT

ITEM #1
CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.

ITEM #2
REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes of February 14, 2012 postpone to next meeting.

ITEM #3
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE
& COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMISSION
FY'13 BUDGET AND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ITEMS

Mr. Juros and Mr. Baker gave an overview of the FY'13 Capital Improvement Planning Committee budget summary and proposed list of projects. Approved by the CIPC on February 27, 2012, \$1.13 million was recommended for the FY'13 Capital Budget. Less the Ambulance Fund and other Transfers the total FY'13 Capital Expenses equal \$700,000.

Ms. Yaffe suggested that some of the capital items should be part of the operating budget. Mr. Baker offered that this (the CIPC) is a good process for these items to go through.

Mr. Dunham noted that some items that are too big for the regular budget. Items are listed by departments and then prioritized. Assistant Town Manager Doug Lapp and Facilities Director Ted Hamilton have been working on a list of project priorities.

Questions raised and brief discussions on depreciation of town assets, taizer for the police officers, Library HVAC project.

Following up on a question raised by Mr. Hickey regarding the HVAC at the Library, Mr. Juros explained the need for the repairs. It has been about twenty-two years since the Town has put any serious money into its buildings like this. We are trying to plan for the future of our town.

Mr. Diederling asked...what are we going to do to enlighten people this year? People have to be given the facts. Mr. Baker explained that they (the CIPC) have a detailed report...you can't just replace individual parts. Mr. Hickey asked about any programs that are available to recuperate some of the money to be spent? Mr. Dunham offered that through Mr. Hamilton the Town did approach National Grid but we have to up front the costs and then request reimbursement. On this building we got a rebate of about \$75,000.

Funding of the Library HVAC project is being considered for as capital exclusion for 1 year.

Mr. Dunham, speaking on behalf of the Community Preservation Committee, gave a brief overview of the estimated Community Preservation Act Calculations for the next year and various CPC projects including the proposed Town Hall Square Phase II project.

Mr. Diederling expressed concern that there is enough money available through the CPA for land purchases. Choices have to be made on how we want to spend the CPA funds.

General discussion on the use of CPA funds.

ITEM #4
TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Overview of Projected Revenues and Expenses – FY'13(GHD Draft – Selectmen 2.23.12 Vote – 3/20/2012.
General update.

FY'13 Budget Totals detailed by accounts including a 3% increase per the Board of Selectmen; Additional General Government Needs (GHD Draft – 3/30/2012) (GHD's List Only – Not Acted on By BOS); Placement Of Additional Funds in Operating Budgets (GHD Draft – 3/20/2012).

General discussion including the Police Dept. overtime; adding an IT Assistant and a part-time office assistant person in the Engineering Dept.

Mr. Kilty suggested that the Committee re-evaluate the numbers to see if they are justified. A year ago we were justifying the budget. He is not advocating we spend money right now...we may have hard times again.

Mr. Sylvia asked Superintendent of School Richard Canfield to put his vision together regarding sports and transportation fees.

Mr. Vibberts asked what the Finance Committee is actually deliberating about. Mr. Diederling – does this Committee support the FY'13 Budget as it is being presented...noting that April 3, 2012 is the last date to vote the budget. We are having discussions now so that we can agree or not.

Ms. Yaffe noted that everyone has done their very best to apportion the money to help run this town. Supports the people we hire. Supports the hiring of these personnel.

Mr. Kilty supports the budget as presented.

Mr. Diederling asked if anyone had any ideas on the School Dept. Budget. Mr. Parini expressed concerns about fees for clubs, sports and parking...sending tuition/school choice. Ms. Yaffe noted that the School Dept. has balanced their budget...some people just don't like the way they have balance it. Mr. Parini noted that the Committee needs to know the enrollment numbers.

General discussion of public education funding...a number that has to be looked at (including sending tuitions and charter school tuitions). Mr. Diederling noted that it appears that staffing in the School Dept. is increasing at a time that student enrollment is decreasing.

ITEM #4
COMMITTEE UPDATES

None.

ITEM #5
OTHER

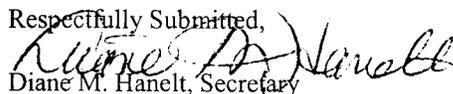
None.

ITEM #6
ADJOURNMENT

10:20 p.m.

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

Respectfully Submitted,


Diane M. Hanelt, Secretary

Approved: 8/28/12

Supporting Documents:

Town of Sandwich Capital Improvement Plan Summary (Final 2/22/12)
FY'13 Capital Budget Summary (Final 2/27/12)
Ambulance Fund and Other Transfers (Final 2/27/12)
Ballot Question – May 7, 2012 Annual Town Election
Long Range Capital Plan
Town of Sandwich – Estimated Community Preservation Act Calculations (3/20/2012)
Letter date January 13, 2012 from P. Tilton DPW Director to CPC re Town Hall Square Phase 2
Application for CPC Funding – Town Hall Square Phase 2
Projected Revenues & Expenses – FY'13 (GHD Draft – Selectmen 2.23.12 voted – 3/20/2012)
FY'13 Budget Totals (GHD Draft – 3/20/2012)
Additional General Government Needs (GHD Draft- 3/30/2012)
Placement of Additional Funds in Operating Budgets (GHD Draft – 3/20/2012)
Index of Warrant Articles (GHD Draft- 3/20/2012)
ARH Engineering, Inc., Fuel Cost Savings Report for the HVAC project at Library