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MINUTES
OF THE
FINANCE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2013
7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL
130 MAIN STREET

Present: Paul Sylvia, Gene Parini, Ellen Yaffe, Bill Diedering, Tom Hickey, Richard Reilly, Mike Dwyer

Absent: Courtney Bridge and Linda Bliss

Also Present: Town Manager George Dunham; Town Accountant Doreen Guild; Selectmen Jim Pierce; UCCRVTS Superintendent Bob Dutch and UCCRVTS Committee member Steve Chalke; Mary Stanley and SCT

ITEM #1
CALL TO ORDER

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

ITEM #2
REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of February 12, 2013-
***MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. YAFFE TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 12, 2013 AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY MR. REILLY. VOTE – UNANIMOUS**

Mr. Sylvia noted that item #4 will be postponed to next meeting, if necessary, because he received no questions from members of the Finance Committee for the School Dept.

ITEM #3
UCCRVTS FY'14 Budget – Superintendent of Schools Bob Dutch and School Committee Member

UCCRVTS Superintendent Bob Dutch gave an overview of the FY'14 UCCRVTS budget. Discussed the article on the ATM warrant regarding establishing a stabilization fund for the purpose of the waste water plant. It takes a majority vote of the five (5) member towns. The plant must be on line within five (5) years and we are already one (1) year into the project. The system will process 18,000 gallons a day. The cost estimate is ¾ to one (1) million dollars.
It was noted that the UCCRVTS spending is one of the lowest in the State.
Ms. Yaffe noted that the Town gets hit on both sides…when our student enrollment goes down in the Sandwich School Dept. and then we have to pay and assessment to charter schools and UCCRVTS.
Brief discussion on the I-Pads installed for the students.
There is a wind turbine on premise but it doesn't produce any electricity. It is a learning tool for the students.
Information presented comparing the FY'13 and FY'14 budgets. The foundation budget for FY'14 is $12,214,096 compared to FY'13 which was $11,805,331 (a 2% increase). Increases in the FY'14 transportation budget due to fuel in large part.
Mr. Dwyer – contracted transportation…does the state provide you with assistance?
Mr. Dutch – sometimes with a parameter but there aren't many vendors on Cape Cod.
Mr. Chalke noted that the HVAC bond comes due in 2014.
Brief discussion on student enrollment.
Mr. Dunham noted that Superintendent Dutch has been great about keep him informed on things.
The UCCRVTS Committee has not voted on the budget yet.
Mr. Parini asked what the top 3 or 4 courses are that the UCCRVTS offers.
Mr. Dutch - Health field, Culinary Arts and Information Technology. Most students go to college, military or directly to a trade.
23% of our students are SPED students.
Mr. Hickey asked…what is the additional cost for a SPED student over other students?
Mr. Dutch – it is not in the budget.
Mr. Sylvia noted that about two (2) years ago we had a tour of the UCCRVTS…suggested that everyone take the tour.
Mr. Dutch noted that at the end of the year, if there is a surplus, we do not tell the staff to buy anything they need to use the surplus up. Surpluses have to come to the UCCRVTS Committee for their approval. Steve Chalke and Penny Blackwell are the Sandwich Representatives to the UCCRVTS Committee. If we lease the building out, they pay for custodians. Profits go into the Stabilization Fund to do capital projects approved by the UCCRVTS Committee.
Mr. Parini – No part of our cost per student goes to additional education?

Mr. Dutch – no, if I closed additional education there would be no savings to the Towns.

ITEM #4
School Dept. FY'14 Budget (Continued if Necessary – Superintendent of Schools Richard Canfield

Follow up on FY'14 Operating Budget Presentation-
No additional information presented.

Other
None

ITEM #5
Town Manager's Report

FY'14 Budget Update-
Last Thursday night the Board of Selectmen voted to recommend the budget (Projected Revenues & Expenses) understanding that it is still about $200,000 in deficit. The HVAC project at the Library is still in flux. Should have information on this early next week.
Debt exclusion information has to be to the Town Counsel before the end of March.
Work on the A Wing at the High School needs to be discussed. Statement of intent needs to be done by the second week in April and the Board of Selectmen will be voting it again on Thursday…doe they just want to go with the bonding and keep the Stabilization Fund out of it or go to the Stabilization Fund. We are still looking into Mass. School Building Association (MSBA) funding also.
Mr. Diedering – will we lose out on any funding?
Mr. Dunham – we are still looking into it.
Mr. Dunham gave an update on capital issues and storms related issues. Relative to the storm issues, we incurred extra costs with the storms. We submit forms to Mass. Emergency Management (MEMA). We have to meet certain thresholds to take it to Federal Emergency Management (FEMA) for their approval. Lots of details are necessary for the Federal forms. If we get any funding it probably won't come in the same fiscal year. Initial Damage Assessments (IDA) are submitted. Mr. Dunham offered an overview of the various town departments which were included in the assessments, the type of damage and amounts of reimbursements requested.

ITEM #6
Committee

Sub-Committee Reports-
None

Future Meeting Schedule-
It was decided that the Committee would meet next week and then wait two (2) weeks.

Ms. Yaffe suggested that the Library HVAC system be scheduled. Mr. Dunham noted that the Selectmen will be discussing this with the project engineers at their meeting on the 21st. Ms. Yaffe noted that she has issues with the project including the costs. Mr. Dwyer inquired about the time frame on the A Wing window project at the high school. Mr. Dunham noted that the School Dept. is trying to obtain funding from the Mass. School Building Association (MSBA) and you have to meet certain criteria to get a certain percentage rate. Trying to get it done this summer or early fall rather than wait another year.
The next School Committee meeting is scheduled for the 13th of March.

On March 14 there will be a tour of the schools for the School Committee, the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager and the Finance Committee. We will meet at the High School…go to the Oakridge School, the Wing School and back to the High School in a yellow bus.

Mr. Sylvia also suggest that it would be a good idea to schedule a meeting to discuss the proposal Joint Public Safety Building

Other-
None

ITEM #7
ADJOURNMENT

8:40 P.M.
***MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY MR. DWYER. SECONDED BY MR. HICKEY . VOTE – UNANIMOUS.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane M. Hanelt
Diane M. Hanelt, Secretary

Approved: 7/9/13

Supporting Documents:
Back up information for UCCRVTS FY'14 Budget Presentation