

Town Clerk

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TOWN OF SANDWICH

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MINUTES  
OF THE  
FINANCE COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2015  
7:00 P.M.  
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM  
130 MAIN STREET, SANDWICH, MA

Present: Linell Grundman, Bob Guerin, Tom Hickey, Matt Terry, Mark Snyder, Jim Lehane and Gene Parini

Absent: Mike Dwyer, Rich Riley

Also Present: Town Manager George Dunham, Finance Director Mimi Spahr, Selectmen Chair Frank Pannorfi and SCT.

ITEM #1  
CALL TO ORDER

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

ITEM #2  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ITEM #3  
REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of June 23, 2015-

**\*MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. HICKEY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 23, 2015 AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY MR. SNYDER. VOTE - UNANIMOUS**

Minutes of August 4, 2015-

**\*MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. SNYDER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 4, 2015 AS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY MR. HICKEY. VOTE - UNANIMOUS**

ITEM#4  
PUBLIC FORUM

No one

ITEM #5  
TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Dunham gave an overview of the Application for Community Preservation Funding which the Board of Selectmen has submitted to the CPC for the Town Neck Beach project. We have been trying to concentrate on the Town Neck Beach erosion permitting. 400,000 cubic yards of sand to replenish the area from Horizon's Restaurant to the Boardwalk area and just beyond to the nesting area for the piping plovers (Old Harbor inlet). We have received all permits with the exception of the Army Corps which, we hope, we will have by the end of August. There are two projects we are working on with the Army Corps - the dredging of the canal (the Federal money was approved last October to start dredging this November. This is called a Section 204 project and it was approved in late June. We are hoping to get 150,000 cubic yards of sand from the dredging of the canal. Permanent easements were necessary from the neighbors where the sand was going to be placed. We thought the easements would not be that difficult. We needed to get sign offs from nine property owners and only got three of the nine by the July 31 deadline. The '204 project' was pulled out. We were told that if we funded 100% of the cost the town would have full authority to say where the sand would go...the Army Corps will do everything. It will cost the Town \$1.7 m and we have to have the money in hand and in our account by mid-September. So, we were looking at the CPA funding. We are responsible for any overruns and over costs. The funding will include \$300,000 for beach grass.



The State has earmarked \$5m in the transportation bond bill. \$1m awarded to the cape for Sandwich. It is not in writing but we will be talking next week with a conference call.

Mr. Dunham gave an overview of Community Preservation Act Estimated Funding Schedule (DRAFT – 8/25/2015). We are working on calculating how much sand we will actually need and how deep we will have to go down with the sand.

Information on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 204 project timeline, primary purpose of the project and latest CPA financial projections. Overrun on dredging the Corps will pay.

Mr. Terry asked about the piping plover area.

Mr. Dunham noted that 150,000 cubic yards is a lot of sand.

Mr. Snyder – is any of the sand that is being put down going to be made into a dune?

Mr. Dunham- yes and explained the proposed process including the planting of the grass etc.

Mr. Parini – any projections on how long the sand will last.

Mr. Dunham – studies have shown that after 7 – 8 years there is still 30% of the dune left...should be solid for 5 – 10 years.

Mr. Lehane thanked Mr. Dunham for his usual thoroughness. On the matter of preservation enforcement, is there anything more that can be done to preserve the inside of the area (the Old Harbor inlet)...where the public is...including enforcement fines etc. Mr. Lehane noted that he is in favor of the project but from a preservation and financial point of view, if we could create a new model for enforcement in the area...

Mr. Dunham noted that Town Counsel will ask that some of the dune regulations can be adopted by the Board of Selectmen as Town By-Laws. Mr. Dunham has spoken with Mark Galkowski, Director of Natural Resources on this topic.

When we go out to bid for the walkover stairs at Town Neck Beach we should look at some money for extra fencing.

Mr. Dunham gave an overview of Funding Schedule for CPA Projects; State Match Funds etc.

The areas that the CPA funding can be used for are open space, affordable housing and Historic Preservation. The article on the Special Town Meeting warrant will be written such that if we get any more state or federal funding, we can rescind the bonding and use the money from the State and Federal government. The CPA funds have been used to fund three studies...Sandwich Hollows Golf Club Recreation Plan, historic proposal of the Deacon Eldred House and the Clark-Haddad Building and approved funding to look at the structural analysis of Shawme Dam. The Conservation Commission works very hard at acquiring land.

**\*MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. SNYDER TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THIS ARTICLE ON THE AUGUST 31, 2015 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT. SECONDED BY MR. LEHANE. A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: MR. PARINI – AYE; MR. LEHANE – AYE; MR. SNYDER – AYE; MR. TERRY – AYE; MR. HICKEY – AYE; MR. GUERIN – AYE; MS. GRUNDMAN - AYE**

Ms. Grundman, Mr. Guerin, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Terry and Mr. Hickey will be on the stage for the Special Town Meeting at the high school on Monday, August 31, 2015.

Mr. Dunham noted that there will be a preparation meeting for the STM on Friday, August 28, 2015 at 3 pm upstairs at town hall. Town Counsel, the Town Moderator, the Town Clerk and others will be present.

Mr. Dunham noted that he and the Town Clerk and the Town Moderator met with the Superintendent of Schools and the Facilities Director about an issue with the stage in the high school auditorium. Everything will be ready in time for the STM.

Discussion on the joint Strategy Communications Committee-

Ms. Grundman noted that the Board of Selectmen is not interested in participating in the Joint Strategy Communications Committee. We will plan to have a joint meeting sometime in September or October with the school department people who were very receptive to the idea. Ms. Grundman asked the FinCom membership to take a look at the 2015/2016 school dept. budget and we will meet to discuss this budget. We will establish some firm guide lines.

Mr. Snyder asked how effective this committee would be without the Board of Selectmen participation.

Ms. Grundman – it is important and critical to have the support of the school committee so we should go forward with it. Tri-Board meetings were actually strategic parts of our budget process.

Mr. Snyder – it is essential that all the boards meet together and work together.

Mr. Parini - Very important that we be working with the school committee. Very supportive of this and wants to continue going forward on this.

Mr. Terry – the joint meeting with the school committee will be the school committee and the finance committee?

Ms. Grundman - yes, sixteen of us.

Ms. Grundman asked that the members who have comments on the guidelines for the Strategy Communications Committee get back to her and Mr. Guerin by September 15.

No meeting is scheduled, at this time, for September.

**ITEM #6**  
**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**ITEM #7**  
**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Grundman noted that she went to a Capital Improvement Planning Committee meeting recently. Mr. Rich Reilly is the FinCom Representative on the CIPC. The new leadership is Paul Kilty, Chair and John Vibberts, Vice-Chair.

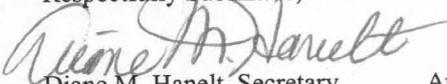
Ms. Grundman – the School Committee has a working group now about the Wing School to look at that issue.

Ms. Grundman – on September 9<sup>th</sup> there will be an ‘Open Meeting’ workshop training at town hall at 6 pm (Town Clerk).

**ITEM #8**  
**ADJOURNMENT**

**7:50 p.m. \*MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY MR. SNYDER. SECONDED BY MS. GRUNDMAN. VOTE – UNANIMOUS.**

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Diane M. Hanelt, Secretary

Approved: 10/27/15

Supporting Documents:

- Town of Sandwich Application for Community Preservation Funding – Town Neck Beach Restoration
- Town of Sandwich Community Preservation Act – Estimated Funding Schedule
- Warrant – STM, Monday, August 31, 2015 7 p.m., Sandwich High School