

Shutesbury Finance Committee Minutes
April 4, 2017 - Shutesbury Town Hall, 7pm

Members Present: George Arvanitis, Eric Stocker, Elaine Puleo, Bob Groves, Jim Hemingway, Weezie Houle and Jim Walton **Members Absent: Non-Members present:** Dan Hayes

- 1) Discussion with Dan Hayes, SES School Committee member regarding:
 - a) Capital Planning items
 - i) Bob says that we do not need a new boiler. He spoke to Jamrog, who has billed the town a reasonable amount each year in maintenance for the heating system.
 - ii) Sidewalk – Discussion about how to make the project smaller and do it incrementally.
 - iii) Paving – The school, the highway department, and the fire department. Bob presented three options: 1) full replacement 2) skim coating 3) oil and stone. Eric was wondering about crack patching.
 - b) New Finance Director, Bruce Turner, has had experience from many previous roles as a municipal volunteer and selectman.
 - c) Dan requests a new process for the school to ask, bid, research and request help for emergency issues as well as for the Capital Planning issues.
- 2) Motion passed unanimously to **not** fund the school or highway dept paving this upcoming fiscal year and that the Buildings Committee come up with an analysis and recommendation for next year's paving spending.
- 3) Motion passed unanimously to **not** fund the new boiler.
- 4) Motion passed unanimously to fund the SES sidewalk repair for \$25,000.
- 5) Total Capital Planning Request: \$445,120; Finance Committee: Recommended: \$133,820, Not funded: \$311,300
- 6) Discuss use of Free Cash / Stabilization / Funding of FY18 Budget
- 7) Review of current assets: We have:
 - a) \$772,082 in Capital Stabilization
 - b) \$260,221 in Stabilization
 - c) \$58,748 Fin Committee Reserves
 - d) \$1,176,791 Free Cash
- 8) How we will fund Capital Planning items:
 - a) Library Building Fund: From the levy
 - b) Buildings Committee Construction/Repair \$25,000: Free Cash
 - c) SES New flooring for 4 classrooms \$25,000: Free Cash
 - d) SES New sidewalks \$25,000: Free Cash
 - e) Paving of Fire Dept. area \$25,000: Free Cash
 - f) HW plow for new truck \$8,800: Free Cash
- 9) Motion passed unanimously to fund OPEB \$125,000 out of Fee Cash.
- 10) Projected free cash: \$942K
- 11) Review FY18 Budget
 - a) We reviewed all the changes Becky made to the budget since last meeting
 - b) Fin Com recommends that we reduce the SES budget by \$14K and lower OPEB by \$10,000.
 - c) Finance committee would like to have a conversation with the School Committee for the future budgets.
 - d) Eric has a list of questions for Becky for our meeting on Thursday
- 12) Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm
- 13) Next Meeting: Thursday, April 6, 2017, 7pm, Final Budget, Warrant voting
- 14) Upcoming FY17 Meeting Schedule
 - a) Thursday, April 6, 2017, 7pm, Final Budget, Warrant voting
 - b) Thursday, April 20, 2017, 7pm, Prep for Town Meeting
 - c) Saturday, May 6, 2017, 8:30am, Town Meeting
 - d) Thursday, June 8, 2017, 7pm