

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

Members Present: Eric Stocker, Elaine Puleo, Bob Groves, Jim Hemingway, Weezie Houle and Jim Walton
Members Absent: George Arvanitis **Non-Members present:** Mike Vinsky, Jeff Lacey, Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil

- 1) Approve minutes from March 23, 2017 and April 4, 2017 as amended with emails attached.
- 2) Budget Changes:
 - a) Cut OPEB line item by \$10,000
 - b) Reduce the Elementary School Budget by \$14,000. Discussion: Becky: We do not have authority over those funds, so it's inappropriate for us to remove it from the budget.
 - c) All is good with changes
- 3) Motion passed unanimously to modify the SES school budget line item 103 to a flat 2 %; \$1,938,324, funding their third request by \$10,500 less than requested.
- 4) Energy line 168: It funded all the new lighting, insulation. Now they want to build a 300KW farm it would offset all the town's electricity costs. Eric: Does not want to put funds aside for a potential solar farm.
- 5) Motion passed unanimously to defund the energy line item 178 for the upcoming fiscal year.
- 6) Library Income Grant line item 29. It is an accounting change.
- 7) Discussion about Police wages line 79. We will talk to Tom about the \$2,000 and a discussion about wages.
- 8) Capital Planning items
 - a) Sidewalk – We had a lengthy discussion and decided to stay with the motion we made last week.
 - b) Paving – We reviewed the three options again and Tim's recommendation. We confirmed our decision to put off the paving until another year.
- 9) Motion passed unanimously to transfer \$2,296 from Finance committee Reserves to cover excessive expenses in the legal line item number 38 to cover a law suit
- 10) Motion passed unanimously to transfer \$5,000 from Finance committee Reserves to cover expenses in the legal line item number 38.
- 11) Committee Reports
 - a) Broadband Report - Eric: The state has said they will give us the grant money, about \$940,000. They have started a grant application, which will hopefully go out next week after the select board signs the application.
 - b) Visioning Committee – Bob – They are still working on a report
- 12) Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm
- 13) Next Meeting: Thursday, April 13, 2017, 7pm, Final Budget, Warrant voting
- 14) Upcoming FY17 Meeting Schedule
 - a) Thursday, April 13, 2017, 7pm, Prep for Town Meeting, Warrant voting
 - b) Saturday, May 6, 2017, 8:30am, Town Meeting
 - c) Thursday, June 8, 2017, 7pm