

Shutesbury Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 7, 2009, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Finance Committee Members Present: Patrick Callahan, Bill Wells, Lori Tuominen, George Arvanitis, Weezie Houle, Rus Wilson, Gary Hirshfield, **Visitors:** Becky Torres

1. Call to Order: 7:55pm
2. Update on other transfers or reserve fund actions misc funds from Becky
 - a. Update on fire station cleanup, discussion of any necessary budget adjustment: The LUST funds are covering \$200,000 contract plus our expenses of \$50,000, so we have about \$30,000 which we are using to pay the Bill Clark and our LSP. Plus there will be about \$20-50,000 more expenses. State Leg passed legislation that you can borrow \$ to pay for clean ups. We have free cash and stabilization \$ which may make it hard to borrow.
 - b. Special Town Meeting: 3-4 small problems in our budget
 - i. Town Mtg. technicality: We raised and appropriated \$37,000 twice by accident. We have to rescind one of them
 - ii. The ambulance contract went up \$700 and we level funded it
 - iii. The estimate of retirement \$ from Gabe was not the final number, so we need to add \$7,000 to the retirement
 - iv. Cherry Sheet: Chapter 70 funds were reduced by \$11,000. They did not charge us \$39,000 for Charter Students. Apparently they were not on the April enrollment sheet. So we are to the good \$28,000. The recap will heighten our free cash and they can asses us more later.
 - v. If we do a Special Town Mtg. before Free Cash is certified, we probably want to spend some of it down.
3. Committee approved reorganization for next year:
 - a. Patrick Callahan stays as Chair and Educational Committee rep
 - b. Rus Wilson stays as Capital Planning rep
 - c. Bill Weld stays as CPA rep
 - d. Lori Tuominen stays as LFNAC rep and resigns as Capital Planning rep
 - e. George Arvanitis stays as Personnel Committee rep
 - f. Weezie Houle stays as Secretary and School Committee rep
 - g. Gary Hirshfield is designated as new Capital Planning rep.
4. Solar panel update: All 4 panels are up and working. We got our first electric bill, our bill dropped from \$160 to \$50. Yeah!
5. Discuss budget process for the fall:
 - a. Budget Planning Meetings:
 - i. December 7: 7pm Police Dept
8pm Fire Dept
 - ii. December 14: 7pm Highway Dept
8pm Library
 - iii. January 4: 8pm School Committee
 - iv. January 18 : 7pm Open Boards, Committees, other Departments
 - v. February 1: 7pm Capital Planning
 - vi. February 15: 8pm Select Board (general FY123 discussion)
6. Special town meeting for fall: First or second week on October
7. Next meeting: October 5, 2010, 7pm; November meeting on the 9th,
8. Adjourned at: 9pm