Shutesbury Finance Committee Minutes
Thursday, November 30, 2017 - Shutesbury Town Hall, 7pm

Members Present: George Arvanitis, Eric Stocker, Jim Hemingway, Weezie Houle and Jim Walton, Elaine Puleo
Members Absent: Bob Groves
Non-Members present: Becky Torres, Melissa Makepeace-O’Neil

1) Approve minutes from November 9, 2017 as amended.
2) Review YTD (FY18) Expense and Revenue Reports (if any changes)
   a) Discussion about the Ambulance service fee.
   b) The legal expense line item needs a transfer to cover current bills. We may need to transfer more funds later this year.
3) Motion passed unanimously to support $5,000 transfer from Finance Committee Reserves to the Legal Expense item.
4) Update on Regional Assessment
   a) All towns went back to their towns to see if S10.
   b) Amherst Select Board voted to support it. 3 of 4 towns support it.
   c) Leverett does not like the median aggregate income – included registered voting students in Amherst. Leverett thinks the budget has fat in the budget.
   d) Shutesbury cannot support the 5 Year rolling average. We feel the S10 is the best for the region. It is the most stable and least volatile.
5) Motion passed unanimously to support the Personnel Committee recommendation for the Fire Fighter training wages to be the same as the On Call wages.
6) Reports from Committee
   a) Broadband – Jim H. – Home Run – A Single fiber to each house from the main box using plug and play connectors.
   b) Personnel – George – In their last meeting discussed the hourly rate to pay the fire fighters for training. The training has the same risks as calls. $18.62 per hour per fire fighter. After discussion, they approved that rate. If there is 12 and they all attend it would bust the budget. But now they have only 6 fire fighters and they all don’t attend all the trainings. The created a job description for Land Use Clerk combines Con Comm and ZBA and Planning clerk budgets. We will also have an increase for the Select board secretary.
   c) Buildings Committee – The sidewalk at the school has been the sealant had turned a chalky white and was still there before Thanksgiving. He is going to power wash it off and reseal it, and do it all.
   d) School Committee – Weezie – Discussed the preliminary U 28 budget.
   e) Capital Planning – Elaine – We reviewed the Capital Budget Request form.
7) Meeting adjourned 9pm
8) Future Meeting Schedule:
   a) Saturday, December 2, 2017, Four Town Meeting, Amherst Middle School, 8am
   b) Thursday, December 14, 2017, Fire Dept., Library, Capital Planning,
   c) Thursday, December 28, 2017, Highway Dept., 7:15pm, Jeff Lacey, 7:45pm
   d) Tuesday, January 9, 2018, Select Board, School Committee
   e) Tuesday, January 16, 2018, Treasurer, Town Collector, Accountant
   f) Thursday, January 25, 2018, Police,
   g) Thursday, February 8, 2018, Broadband,
   h) Thursday, February 22, 2018, Assessor, Capital Planning
   i) Thursday, March 8, 2018, Select Board, Personnel Committee
   j) Thursday, March 22, 2018
   k) Thursday, April 12, 2018
   l) Thursday, April 26, 2018
   m) Saturday, May 5, 2018, Town Meeting