

Shutesbury Finance Committee Minutes
Tuesday, January 8, 2019 – Town Hall, 7pm

Members Present: Eric Stocker, Bob Groves, George Arvanitis, Weezie Houle, Jim Walton and Jim Hemingway **Members Absent:** Rita Farrell **Non-Members present:** Becky Torres, Broadband Committee: Gayle Huntress, Frank Citino, Asha Strazzero-Wild, Steven Schmitt; Mike Vinskey

- 1) Motion to approve the minutes from 12/04/18 as amended.
- 2) Motion to approve the minutes from 12/8/18 as amended.
- 3) Motion to approve the minutes 12/18/18 as amended.
- 4) Broadband Committee Report
 - a) They are considering an \$8,500 cap on the cost of the drops. A decision has to be made as to what happens to the ones that exceeds that amount.
 - b) We held a discussion about what to do about any home whose costs come in above the \$8,500. The Broadband Committee is asking if they put a cap on how much the town will pay, and a homeowner offers to pay for it, with the possibility of reimbursement.
- 5) School Committee
 - a) They weren't prepared for tonight's meeting.
 - b) They are meeting on Thursday, January 17th. We are going to go to their meeting.
 - c) Reviewed the Update on the Circuit Breaker handout.
 - d) Prepared questions for the School Committee.
- 6) Budget Review FY 20
 - a) New Regional 10 year Capital Stabilization contribution
 - b) Solar Pilot
 - c) Line 6 – The Town's total Assessed Value has increased to \$218,851 from \$212,759. It's been a long time it since it has increased.
 - d) We have a \$68,000 gap in expenses to revenue.
- 7) Regional Assessment
 - a) George met with a rep from each town, the superintendent, Chair of Regional Committee, and Sean Magano to try to work out the assessment method.
 - b) The state has identified our region of having a non-permanent method.
 - c) We reviewed the statutes that govern how the assessment must be passed and if the towns fail to approve a budget.
 - d) George reviewed the 6 methods they discussed. George asked them to run the S10 and they are going to meet again to discuss the methods again.
- 8) Meeting adjourned 9:35pm
- 9) Future Meeting Schedule:
 - a) Thursday, January 17, 2018, School Committee @ the Shutesbury Elementary School, 7pm
 - b) Tuesday, January 22, 2019, Capital Planning, Library
 - c) Tuesday, February 5, 2019, Treasurer, Town Collector, Accountant
 - d) Tuesday, February 19, 2019, Police, Reschedule date
 - e) Tuesday, March 5, 2019, Select Board, Personnel Committee
 - f) Tuesday, March 19, 2019, Capital Planning
 - g) Tuesday, April 2, 2019, Vote on Warrants if ready
 - h) Tuesday, April 16, 2019, Town Meeting Initial Prep
 - i) Tuesday, April 30, 2019, Town Meeting Final Prep
 - j) Saturday, May 5, 2019, Town Meeting