

Shutesbury Finance Committee
Tuesday, April 12, 2011, 7p.m., Town Hall

Finance Committee Members Present: Patrick Callahan, Lori Tuominen, Weezie Houle, Rus Wilson, Gary Hirshfield, George Arvanitis

Finance Committee Members Absent: Bill Wells

Visitors: Becky Torres, Walter Tibbetts

1. Meeting called to order at 7:05pm
2. Minutes of March 22, 2011 approved as amended.
3. 2012 Budget update –
 - a. The commonwealth is looking up for next year.
 - b. Joined the Select Board for a review of the budget and warrants
 - c. Finance Committee recommended to decouple the connection of the school's COLAs and the town employee's COLA.
 - d. Vote Taken: To give the non-school town employees 1.5% pay increase in the salary line item.**
4. Expense Report reviewed
5. Transfer for fire department call hours
 - a. FY11 Wages line item is at (-\$340 for this year).
 - b. FY11 Salaries line item is at \$818.50 which will be available in July if needed.
 - c. Vote Taken: Transfer \$2,000 to the Wages line item (015220.111) from the Finance Committee Reserve now.**
 - d. Next year's budget Salary line item needs to go to \$10,000 and the Wages line item \$11,000.
6. Capital spending update: \$2,500 added to the budget for the future library.
7. Fire station update – 9" wells have been installed, the charcoal drums are setup and vacuum extractors are set up. We did not get the new hard pack in that will last the better part of 5 years. The wells are permanent. The extraction is for a limited time. We are waiting for the water level to go down. The cost came out \$13,000 lower than originally thought.
8. Reports of Committees
 - a. Library Fundraising Committee – George: Next meeting 4/20 with Matt to go over the preliminary report from his 27 interviews. Varying responses, got some pledges, putting together a handout for town meeting, decided and created working groups.
 - b. School Committee – Rus: The School Committee voted on their FY12 budget with \$30,000 increase not \$60,000.
 - c. Regional School update – Patrick went to a meeting of the Finance Committee Chairs in the region. They are setting up a fund for repairs. First year funds will come from their reserves. After that they will assessed the towns annually.
9. Adjourned at 9:22pm
10. Next meetings April 26, 2011