Finance Committee
Tuesday, February 18, 2014
5:30 pm

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by FC chair Dennis May at 5:40pm.

Present: Dennis May, Maggie Parent, Wayne Zavotka

Minutes from last meeting: Minutes January 8 were approved. Dennis moved approval of Dec 6 minutes. Maggie seconded. Unanimous.

Audience of Citizens: None present

Old Business: none

New Business: Review of warrant for March 5, 2014 STM

Article 1:

It was noted that this is a new article since the January 9, 2014 STM
Discussion: All noted they supported the article as it was necessary to select a treasurer with qualifications.
Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption.
Wayne seconded.
Approval was unanimous

Article 2:

Discussion: none
Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption
Maggie seconded
Approval was unanimous

Article 3:

Discussion: It was noted that the total amount of $3,690 is less than that presented to the January 9, 2014 STM. The amount in the current article is reduced from $5789 to $3690. The breakdown for increase for each line item is Town Hall custodian (1655), Gracy House (1653), Police Dept. Operations (827), and, DPW (827). Marilyn Wilson was called for clarification and she came from home to participate in the discussion at the request of chair, Dennis May.
Final amount of total increase actually required for the increased hours equaled $2897. Marilyn Wilson (BOS, chair) requested the actual amount be left at $3690 because the inclement winter weather has required additional hours for cleaning.

Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption.
Maggie seconded
Approval was unanimous

Article 4.

Discussion: Wayne and Dennis noted the Finance Committee previously did not recommend adoption. However, upon further consideration, it was agreed that the software was more inclusive in its record keeping than previously understood. It was further noted the increased state requirements for record keeping demanded this type of software for record keeping. Also noted, since the previous STM of Jan 9, 2014 approved the article, the software had already been purchased.
Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption.
Wayne seconded.
Approval was unanimous.

Article 5

Discussion: Wayne stated he wished to change his vote to "recommended" from the previous meeting. Upon second thought, he believed keyless entry was more effective in keeping track of keys and maintaining security.
Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption
Wayne seconded.
Approval, but not unanimous (2 yes, 1 abstention)

Article 6

Discussion: none
Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption
Maggie seconded
Approval was unanimous

Article 7

Discussion: none
Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption
Wayne seconded
Approval was unanimous

Article 8

Discussion: none
Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption
Maggie seconded
Approval was unanimous

Article 9

Discussion: none
Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption
Wayne seconded
Approval was unanimous

Article 10

Discussion: Wayne noted that the wording of the article has changed since the Jan 9, 2014 STM. Previously, it was approved to take the $1590 for the purchase of protective vests from the General Fund. This article states the monies will come from Free Cash. Marilyn Wilson explained that there was lack of clarity as to the process of using General Fund monies. Therefore, the process is simplified if the monies comes from Free Cash.
Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption
Wayne seconded
Approval was unanimous

Article 11

Discussion: Dennis noted that the finance committee's recommendation for adoption of this article was not included on the warrant for the Jan 9 meeting due to the FC's recommendation coming after the warrant was prepared.
Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption
Maggie seconded
Approval was unanimous

Article 12

Discussion: Marilyn noted that Seaboard Solar is not only bringing suit against the town but also against the two parties of the Planning Board who voted against the solar project. MIIA (Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Co) has been approached to see if they will represent the Town of Rowe in its defense. If MIIA represents the Town of Rowe, the $15,000 will be returned to the General Fund. Maggie questioned who should bear the responsibility of defending the town in this instance.
Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption
Wayne seconded
Approval was unanimous

Article 13:

Fiber Optic service run to Rowe Elementary School site.
Discussion: See explanation. Fiber Optics service was intended to be part of the town's public building wiring when the Town Hall was wired. It was noted that there is no current internet service available at the site for the construction crew. Marilyn Wilson noted this is needed as it is making communication very difficult for the builders. It is needed ASAP.
Dennis moved to recommend the article for adoption
Maggie seconded
Approval was unanimous

General Discussion:

The total amount to be taken from free cash if all articles are approved: $74752.08

Adjournment: Dennis moved adjournment at 7:50pm. Maggie seconded. Unanimous approval

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Zavotka

Dennis May _____ Dennis May, Chair

Maggie Parent _____ Maggie Parent

Wayne Zavotka _____ Wayne Zavotka