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January 14, 2015

The Board of Finance held a [regular] meeting on this date at the Police Department meeting room. Members present were Glenn Frishman, Chairman; June Strunk, Secretary ; Sandy Grimes; Dudley Wheeler; Tim O'Brien; and Brian Bentz.

**Comments from the public**

Ms. Jones: I would like some consistency and comments from the public at the beginning and the end of your meeting. The reason I would like this is I want to have the opportunity to comment after you've had a discussion. At the town meeting where there were about 500 people, the reason I was given that it wasn't put on was that too many people would comment, and it would take too long. But as you can see from this room, I don't think you're going to have too many comments that are going to take too long. The Board of Selectmen and the BOE do this at the beginning and the end of their meetings.

Glenn Frishman: Thank you very much, Ms. Jones. Are there any other comments from the public?

**Additional appropriations**

Glenn Frishman: Mr. Green, I have in front of me your request. And, in a normal year, your office does 27 million dollars, bringing in \$216,000. Right now you're on tap for bringing in \$93,100,000. That's a lot. Mr. Wheeler, do you concur? Do you concur that we have to get Mr. Green some help?

Mr. Wheeler?: We used to have two in that office; we eliminated one. The way I look at it, now he's got more than he can handle himself.

Mr. Frishman: I think so. Any questions from the members?

Mrs. Strunk: I do. I would like to know what line item #80325 is.

Mr. Frishman: My technical assistant's line item.

Mrs. Strunk: OK.

Mr. Frishman: This current fiscal year started out, I had a \$20,000 line item, and I have a P/T person now, and that's used up. Some of these projects have not started yet, but they're due to start in the next month or two.

Mrs. Strunk: OK. Yes. Is this \$40,000 above what we budgeted?

Mr. Frishman: We've always operated this at @ \$20,000; anything else we've sent to Town Meeting with recommendations; I'd like to recommend that we go to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Crouse, any comments you'd like to make?

Mr. Crouse: With the increase of 179 units at Masonicare... [I just got in].

Mr. Frishman: We're talking about the proposal to increase the technical assistant's line item for the building official because he's slated to triple his workload in one year. I've had a qualifying conversation with Mr. Green, and he has a candidate *with* the necessary licenses and certifications, so this would seem to make a lot of sense. Can I have a motion, then, to get this done?

**Motion** from Mr. Grimes, and the Second from Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. Frishman: Positive recommendation was unanimous from the Board for the Technical Appropriations for technical assistance.

### **Previous Minutes**

Mrs. Strunk: Could you please table the Minutes; there is some language in there that doesn't fit. I think that November's minutes were also tabled.

Mr. Frishman: That's fine. Now, Mr. King, interim security... I have your submission; it looks like you and Archie met at West Broad Street School, and the total is \$125,000, and that will give you ...

Mr. Frishman: Do members have any questions of Mr. King?

Mrs. Strunk: Could I have a more detailed explanation of what it is you are requesting of us?

[Conversation regarding the plans included in Mr. King's packets to the Board ensued.]

Mr. King: We are asking for the security wall for both Dean's Mill and West Vine Schools... plus the fence behind West Vine. The DRA wasn't in favor of it, but they weren't altogether against either.

**Motion** was made by Mrs. Strunk to accept the proposal for interim school security appropriations. Mr. Grimes seconded the motion. All members approved.

Mr. Frishman: Mrs. Johnson, we need to send a letter to the First Selectman, informing the Board of Selectman of the afore-mentioned and to present it at the next Town Meeting.

### **Public Works**

Mr. Frishman: Mrs. McKrell, [Director of Public Works] your summary describes the specific recommendations made at last month's meeting, correct?

Mrs. McKrell said: Yes, this is what this budget entails.

Mr. Frishman: Do members have any questions? This \$30,000 comes from Pavement Treatment which is the money used to repair pot holes and general pavement improvements.

Mrs. McKrell: Yes, for instance, this year we paved the entrance to Stanton Lane; we've paved over where the asphalt should be 4" thick, but was found to be only 1 1/2" thick.

Mr. O'Brien: Was the Bond money used for these treatments?

Mrs. McKrell: No, these that I've just stated are just repair, not full treatment. We had a sink hole on River Rd. We were able to get the Town Engineer to assess what was wrong, and to have a contractor do the paving.

Mrs. Strunk: I still have a lot of problems taking \$30,000 out of roads and treatment when we still have a lot of problems with our roads. Isn't there somewhere else we can find the money? How about the summer help?

Mr. Frishman: I think we have \$14,000 in the summer help budget. Mr. Sullivan, would you check on that for me? I would transfer that now because winter is not over yet – unfortunately.

Mrs. Strunk: I don't know. [There was some discussion about the most effective overtime.]

Most of the kids plow the fields.

Mr. Frishman: Yes, but we can put most of that money back. Right now I'm concerned that we could have potential substantial snow damage. It's only early January. Right now, I would recommend we take \$13,999 out of the summer help budget. Right now, Dir. McKrell can act on it. We definitely want to get the fleet up to snuff as soon as possible. I fully support Ms. McKrell's efforts.

Mr. Bentz: How much road repair are we doing in the winter?

Ms. McKrell: Repairs would begin in early April.

We can take \$14,000 out of line[ ] that she wants, and take \$14,000 out of summer help. That's \$28,000.

Mr. Frishman: They think \$30,000 is their shortfall.

Mrs. Strunk: Last month they came in and asked for \$40,000.

Ms. McKrell: We've been extremely conservative with our repairs. Right now we actually have a truck down.

Mr. Frishman: So, this need in the future would enable you to get the necessary parts to get the truck up and running.

Ms. McKrell: I'll come back as soon as the grass starts growing, and we manage the fields again. The seasonal ... because the highway department took on the maintenance of the fields...

Mr. Frishman: The nice thing about that amount is that we can immediately take care of things; what you say about sink holes concerns me.

Mrs. Strunk: So we're going to take \$13,999 out of summer help and the other \$14,000 out of Treatment?

Mr. Frishman: Yes. I don't want to take the entire amount out of treatment. Ms. McKrell, so that gets to your \$30,000. And then we can come back and revisit if need be?

Ms. McKrell: Yes, that would be fine.

Mr. Frishman: OK, so the motion will be to approve the transfer out of summer help for the amount of \$13,999, and then, the balance ... make it out to \$30,000 from the treatment line 80217 ... 1601... a total of \$30,000 to be transferred to repairs and maintenance, correct?

Ms. McKrell: Actually, it's 80205.

Mr. Frishman: **Motion** made by Mr. Grimes. Mr. O'Brien seconds the motion. All in favor, say aye. [The motion is carried unanimously.] Thank you for coming, Ms. McKrell.

Mr. Frishman: Now, we have a regular meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup>; we can start the budget 2/4<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Strunk: When do we get the books?

Mr. Frishman: As the chairman, you can get it to me by the middle of next week?

[Discussion ensued about the upcoming B.O.F. meeting calendar and general agenda] ...

Mr. Frishman: We should do it for the WPCA], now you're back on the 18<sup>th</sup>?

Mrs. Strunk: There are three weeks when one of us is out.

Mr. Frishman: [Sandy] there's a chance you may be back. On the 4<sup>th</sup>, we'll do the WPCA and Solid Waste. On the 18<sup>th</sup>, we'll do the Police and Public Works as well as non-profits (human services). On the 25<sup>th</sup>, we'll do General Gov't. *We'll do the non-profits and human services on the 25<sup>th</sup>, instead, along with General Government.* The BOE will have its budget by March 1<sup>st</sup>. If we have a special meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup>, and if there's anything else that needs to be added to the agenda, Mr. Crouse will call me, and we'll make sure it gets added to the agenda. I cancel the meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup> because the B.O.E. ... On 3/11<sup>th</sup> we'll do the BOE along with the regular meeting.

Mrs. Strunk: K-12 ...

Mr. Frishman: When are you meeting?

Mrs. Strunk: I don't know.

Mr. Frishman: We can't have a resolution because that's when voters are voting. Town Council makes a resolution and the BOF makes its recommendations. The Board of Selectmen puts it before the voters, and if need be, we'll call a special meeting. While all this is going on, the Building Cmte. is preparing to [ ]. This way that would be fine; this allows us to stay in touch. Let's do *CIP(?)* and general gov't on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **Correspondence**

Mr. Frishman: Did members have a chance to read the correspondence? Have members had a chance to read the letter from Ms. Weiss who is our Sanitarian? She needs extra help. Until we get a specific dollar amount, (because this is a special meeting) we can't take any action, but we can discuss it. Mr. Crouse, is the Sanitation [ ]? So, we're looking for P/T (1099) or regular P/T – if she could provide an hourly rate, so we could have a cost to vote on?

Mr. Crouse: I'm sure she could come up with that.

### **Sub-committee Reports**

Mrs. Strunk: We had two town meetings; the third is on 1/27<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Frishman: Quantitative figure options? [Mrs. Strunk] no cost figures yet?

Ms. McKrell: There are cost estimates per sq. footage ... maybe @\$40,000,000 base to re-build or for new construction.

Mr. Frishman: Mr. Crouse, can we pull a performance bond for road repair, a contract?

Ms. McKrell: Mr. Londregan's office; we've had a meeting with the contractor and his attorney, and we're progressing toward a resolution.

Mr. Frishman: Could you give us an outline of what materials which perhaps do not meet specifications?

Ms. McKrell: The bonding company could hire a contractor.

Mr. Frishman: I'm sure you've lost confidence in this contractor.

Ms. McKrell: I do have a preference, but since we're in negotiations, I don't have specifications.

Mr. Frishman: Do you have a sense of when it will finally be fixed?

Ms. McKrell: No, I don't.

Mr. Frishman: Was there a problem with the pitch also?

Ms. McKrell: Primarily, the grade does not meet the qualifications requirement.

Mr. Frishman: Let's hope we get that fixed as soon as possible. Right now, are there any other questions? Let's move to adjourn.

Adjournment approved.

DRAFT