



THE TOWN OF
HUBBARDSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes – 16 February 2011

- Meeting convened at 6:30pm
- Present: Ed Blanchard, Dave Simmerer, Mark Connery, Chris Norcross, Ben Prentiss, Pat Girouard
- Location: Hubbardston Senior Center
- No Open Meeting Time business discussed.
- Meeting Minutes: None submitted for approval.
- Reserve Fund Transfers: None submitted for approval
- Reorganization of Finance Committee:
 - **Motion** by Ben Prentiss to keep the existing officers: Ed Blanchard – Chairman; Dave Simmerer – Vice Charman; Jamie Pitney - Secretary. **2nd** by Chris Norcross. **Motion approved 6-0.**
- Meeting with Board of Assessors:
 - A meeting with the Assessors and Agricultural Commission took place to discuss changing the personal property exemption and the agricultural exemption. After much discussion, the Finance Committee thought that moving the personal exemption from \$5000 to \$10000 would be a recommendation. The Fincom also asked to have the agricultural exemptions reviewed. The Fincom asked the Assessors to review both these recommendations and work with the Agricultural Committee to place appropriate articles on the Town warrant for vote at the Annual Town Meeting.
- Highway Department research:
 - The Finance committee received an update from Dave Simmerer and Chris Norcross on Highway Dept research. Both members are continuing to meet with other Highway Depts. in other Towns in an effort to see if our Highway Dept could run more efficiently and productively in improving our roads. Roads seem to be a high priority for the Fincom in terms of budgeting more resources.
- Fiscal Year 2012 budget considerations:
 - Concern for the upcoming QRHS budget was discussed and it was decided to wait for the School Committee Budget to be presented.
 - The Committee also wished to get a cost for a COLA increase for non union Town employees from the Town Administrator.

- Next meeting 3/15/11 at 6:30pm
- Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward H Blanchard

Edward Blanchard – Finance Committee Chair

Approved: 30 March 2011