



THE TOWN OF
HUBBARDSTON, MASSACHUSETTS
Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes – 9 March 2011

- Meeting convened at 6:00pm
- Present: Ed Blanchard, Dave Simmerer, Chris Norcross, Ben Prentiss, Pat Girouard, Jamie Pitney *Galbreath*
 - Katherine *Galbreath*, Judy McArthur, Vin Ritchie, Dennis O'Donnell, Barbara Hubbard, *G*indy Doane, Mary Taylor, Tom *Howland*, Jassy Bratko *Howlett*
- Location: Hubbardston Town Offices – Slade Building Conference Room
- No Open Meeting Time business discussed.
- Meeting Minutes: None submitted.
- Reserve Fund Transfers: None submitted.
- Community Preservation Act:
 - Ed Blanchard opened the conversation by welcoming the various CPC members and other CPA supporters.
 - Ed also summarized previous FINCOM discussion (referring to draft FINCOM recommendation to BoS) regarding the sense of the committee that the voters directly decide (via Town Meeting warrant and/or ballot question as appropriate) whether to continue the CPA or not.
 - Extensive discussion ensued between the committee and meeting attendees with the following points captured:
 - Program not eligible for review/revision for another year of existence (Town Meeting 2012)
 - FINCOM takes no position on whether to renew/extend
 - CPC and supporters expressed concern about bringing up for a vote. Energy better spent on other pressing matters for the town.
 - CPC/supporters curious as to FINCOM not taking a position as this has financial impacts. Ed contended very reason to put before the town.
 - \$150,000 in town tax revenue with \$600,000 in projects in the queue
 - Vin Ritchie expressed support for CPA. Town “not shy” about wanting to lower taxes, etc. However CPA passed very favorably and a “clear BINGO” on the success of the program.
 - Senator Brewer take no position because of his role as chair of the Ways and Means Committee.
 - Rep Kim Ferguson supports expanded legislation currently in consideration in the state legislature.
 - What is the urgency to consider review/vote if it doesn't need to go until next voting cycle.

- CPC expressed concern that they were not aware there was a ballot consideration.
 - Fiscal Year 2012 Budget meetings with departments:
 - The rest of the FINCOM meeting was dedicated to meeting with department heads (in conjunction with the Board of Selectman) to review FY12 budgets as submitted by:
 - Police Department
 - Board of Health
 - Library
- Minutes for this part of the FINCOM meeting can be reviewed as documented, submitted, approved and posted by the Board of Selectman.

- Other Updates:
 - CIPC has agreed to undertake land acquisition project. Will be requesting BoS to put out an RFP.

Purpose for land acquisition would be for ~~building of alternate senior center location,~~ ^{any municipal use including:} possible public safety building, etc.

- Materials submitted/reviewed at meeting:
 - Agenda
 - Draft FINCOM recommendation to the BoS regarding the CPA dated 3/9/11
 - CPA Balance Sheet with Forward Projections
 - Community Preservation Committee Overview March 2011
- Next meeting 3/16/11 at 6:00pm – combined meeting with BoS to review departmental budgets scheduled for 6:30pm.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Jamie Pitney – Finance Committee Secretary

Approved: 30 March 2011