

MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: June 14, 2016

5-APP
1-Absent
7/5/16

**ATTENDING: ALLEN, BANDZIERZ, NOVECK, SCARBRO (Arrived 4:09),
SWANSON**

ABSENT: BERKEL

OTHERS ATTENDING: MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT: 4:04PM

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF: April 26, 2016 (Tom)
May 3, 2016 (Town Meeting)
May 17, 2016 (Laura) 4-0 Approved, 2 absent**

NOTICES: None

HANDOUTS: End of Year/Transfers rules and regs

REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE REPORTS:

May 31, 2016

AGENDA:

**Reorganization of Board – Laura Allen, Chairman, Mike Bandzierz, Vice
Chairman and Thomas Berkel, Secretary (5-0, 1 absent)**

Update on broadband initiative (No real news)

Update on Compensation Committee

**Eric to send memo to Bill Tighe, Personnel Director, requesting that he
come to 7/5/16 Finance Committee Meeting to inform all members of the Finance
Committee of the findings of the compensation committee re: salary ranges, job
descriptions, etc.**

**Rocky discussed the Police Search Committee and noted no meetings of the
committee as of yet. Although it is not a task of the Search Committee, the Finance
Committee questioned whether there should be a referendum on the ballot
regarding a 24/7 police department. Some members thought that this was an
opportune time to once again raise the question of 24/7 coverage vs. state police for
all shifts or one. The financial impact of state police vs. 24/7 coverage would have to
be assessed as well as the will of the townspeople. Townspeople should be aware of
what it costs to have 24/7 coverage vs. state police and other implications in addition
to financial.**

2016 Budget

2016 will close on July 15, 2016. The Finance Committee will meet on the 5th of July to deal with end of year transactions.

Ralph noted he thought the town was awarded \$50,000 (instead of the \$100,000 requested) for work on the Egremont School. Laura will send a memo to Susan Bachelder asking her to confirm. This means the town is \$50,000 short in making repairs to the school according to engineering plans.

2017 Budget (no certified warrant yet)

RESERVE FUND TRANSFER REQUESTS:

<u>ACCOUNT NO.</u>	<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>	<u>REQUEST</u>	<u>VOTED</u>
015151.702	Legal Expenses	\$ 736.42	5-0(1absent)

END OF YEAR TRANSFERS:

<u>FROM ACCOUNT NO.</u>	<u>TO ACCOUNT NO.</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>VOTED</u>
615451.200 (Water Util)	615451.703 (WaterIns)	\$856.22	5-0(1absent)
015162.113(ElecWages)	015161.700(TCExp)	750.00	5-0(1absent)

It was decided that Laura would send an e-mail to Mary for passing on to departments and boards, who request end of year transfers, that they provide the reason for the transfer and note the history of prior years' expenses, etc. We are asked to approve a transfer and (in some cases) have no idea of what the funds will be used for, what bills are outstanding, etc. The Finance Committee is uncomfortable approving such requests without backup.

CARRYOVERS FROM 2016 -2017

Special Articles			
015193.703 (2015 MTG) Egremont School (RFP,etc)	\$ 50,058	Noted	
015193.704(2015MTG) Library (RFP,etc)	118,700	Noted	

OFFICIALS' ITEMS:

CITIZENS' ITEMS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

FINANCE COMMITTEE ITEMS/UPDATES:

Water Department – Follow implementation of audit items/Tom-Mike
Water Dept retained earnings (2016- \$)
Latest filing by FD re: 990 (last in FC file 2006) (Eric)
Compensation Committee (ongoing Mike/Eric)
Broadband Committee (Eric)
See Massachusetts Municipal Personnel Salary surveys regarding compensation
(150 towns participated) See MMA Summer, page 15. What about our
surrounding towns? Bill Tighe/Eric
What does it cost to run departments in Egremont?
Southern Berkshire Regional School District- Bond Issue
FEMA grant for Fire Department (Air packs)– errors in grant application
Laura to send memo to Mary
Financial Policies and Procedures Manual (We need to develop)

Next Finance Committee meeting: Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 4:00PM

ADJOURNED: 4:50PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Allen, Acting Secretary