

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF EGREMONT
FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
4 December 2018

ATTENDING: MRS. L. ALLEN, MR. M. BANDZIERZ, MR. T. BERKEL, MR. F. PENGLASE, Mrs. A. PULVER

ABSENT: MR. S. RAWLINGS

OTHERS ATTENDING: Mr. Selectman Geo. McGurn

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT:** 6:00 PM, Chair Mrs. Laura Allen presiding.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF:** November 13, 2018 Approved 5-0 (1 absent)
3. **NOTICES:**
 - a. Special Town Meeting on December 11, 2018 has been cancelled due to a Planning Board faux pas.
 - b. The Committee was informed of the opportunity to provide a gift to a young child, and the Committee volunteered to support the idea at \$10 per member. Mrs. Allen volunteered to do the shopping and add the gift to the total number the Town officials are giving.
 - c. Town Holiday party December 19 at Catamount Base Lodge from 6-8:00PM. Attendees are advised to call Mary to advise what to bring as a food item.
4. **HANDOUTS:**
 - a. South Egremont School – Memo from Chris Regan in response to email of Laura Allen
 - b. Facts re: finances for the school as of 11/30/2018 (We will need later)
 - c. Levy Limit calculation for FY 2019
 - d. Tax Recap for 2019
5. **REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE REPORTS:**

Expenditure and Revenue Reports FY 2019 (November 30, 2018)
6. **NEGOTIATIONS:**
 - a. Police and Highway Department Contracts – negotiations
 - b. Bill Tighe’s request for memo from FC re: 2 raises per year, etc.
 - c. Basic data on alternatives for police services will be researched by Mr. Berkel so as to avail the Finance Committee of a comparison cost function.
7. **SOUTH EGREMONT SCHOOL:**
 - a. Balances in accounts for the school amount to
 - b. There is a \$110,000 request for Handicapped upgrades
 - c. The Town, as of this writing, has not heard about grant.
 - d. Possible opening in January under “normal District (SBRSD) agreements for operation.
 - e. There is some lead paint on the exterior of the building to be ‘fenced off’ until Spring.

8. WATER ENTERPRISE FUND:

- a. Some \$8,300 is anticipated to be used for engineering from operating funds or grants available.
- b. The total cost to get the water plant returned to form is thought to be near \$50,000.

9. TECHNOLOGY TASK FORCE: An RFP (Request For Proposal) has been issued asking fiber optic providers to quote against provision of service to 96% of the residential and business structures in Egremont.

10. AFFORDABLE HOUSING: Mrs. Allen noted there was consideration of a plan to sell property to Construct, Inc. for the purpose of establishing some affordable housing units in Egremont. There may also be a 'nominal' financial obligation for the Town to kick start the project.

11. BUDGET REQUESTS:

<u>ACCOUNT NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>REQUESTED</u>	<u>VOTED</u>
NONE			

12. RESERVE FUND TRANSFERS:

<u>ACCOUNT NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>VOTED</u>
None			

13. CITIZENS' ITEMS: None

14. OFFICIAL'S ITEMS: None

15. OTHER MISCELLANY:

- a. Finance Committee Manual (Town) Work on Procedures.
- b. Long Range tax and tax rate outlook inclusive of borrowing.

16. NEXT MEETING: To Be Determined

17. There being no further business to come before the Committee the session was **ADJOURNED:** 7:45 PM, o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Berkel
Secretary, Egremont Finance Committee

These Minutes Approved 5 February 2019: 5 Yes, 0 No