

## **Finance Board Meeting Minutes: September 15th, 2014**

*Attendees: George McCormack, Rachel Meredith-Warren, Russ Wilson, Caroline Colarusso, Julie Desimone, Ben Caggiano; Stephen Dapkiewicz, Devon Manchester*

Mr. Dapkiewicz called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Ms. Meredith-Warren explained the action plan for the town center vision. She is chairing an oversight committee related to the center redevelopment. MAPC will be at the kick off meeting in October where all are welcome to provide their input. Ms. Meredith-Warren said it will provide direction to the planner when hired.

Mr. Dapkiewicz initiated dialogue on the Water and Sewer Committee and how there are two members appointed by the FAB that the board did not officially appoint. These members were in fact appointed by the Board of Select. Mr. Dapkiewicz made clear that this is not how it should have been handled and the members were in agreement. Mr. Manchester recommended the two members come in for an interview to be vetted and the FAB would consider their reappointment.

Mr. Dapkiewicz then moved to discussion on the letter Selectman Bob Sweeney sent to the IG, Dave Ragucci, and Attorney Solomon in regard to how the trash contract bidding was handled with Hiltz and JRM. The letter appears to show Selectman Sweeney is troubled by the process and wants to see if there was any unethical behavior involved. In the letter he requested all documents that a number of town officials and boards including the FAB had sent regarding the contract. In addition a written sample of why members of the Finance Board voted the way they did, this is to include the member who abstained and the member that “was not allowed to vote.”

Mr. Wilson stated it sounded like a discovery request and asked under what authority does Selectman Sweeney have, there did not appear to be an answer. Mr. Manchester asked if the attorney that is apparently representing Selectman Sweeney would be paid for by town dollars, Selectman Boussy who was in the audience replied that it would be doubtful that the town would approve such an expense. Ms. Meredith Warren suggested the FAB don't do anything and wait for direction from Dave Ragucci and the board was in agreement.

Mr. Dapkiewicz brought up the reserve fund that is likely going to be a warrant article in the October Town Meeting. The reserve fund will be under the authority of the FAB and to be used for emergency funding. It is undetermined what the dollar amount or percentage of the town budget it will be. Mr. Dapkiewicz had the bylaw and it is confirmed it will be managed by the FAB. Moderator Means was in the audience and explained the value of the Reserve Fund and how it had worked in previous years. Mr. McCormack asked if a boiler was needed to be replaced would the process be for the TA to come to the FAB with the RFP's and bids. Selectman Boussy from the audience explained that the TA comes to the Board of Select with some bids but that is an operational function and the Board sets policy, the TA likely wouldn't come to the FAB with bids, it would only be the amount needed.

The next meetings were set for Sept 29<sup>th</sup> and Oct 6<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Manchester made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Wilson.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

Respectfully,

George McCormack