

CHARLEMONT FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING – CHARLEMONT TOWN HALL

February 21, 2018

Members Present: Finance Committee - Lynn Hathaway, Rich Filoramo, Amy Wales, Ron Smith;
SelectBoard - Beth Bandy, Sarah Reynolds, Marguerite Willis; Also in attendance: Peg Dean, Town
Administrator

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Rich Filoramo, Finance Committee Chair.
2. Gordon Hathaway appeared to discuss the Highway budget proposal. We referred to a spread sheet that was distributed. He is asking that his temporary workers' pay be increased to \$15/hour, as he is having trouble hiring/keeping good workers at the current rate of \$12/hour. The SelectBoard would need to approve any wage increase, but it wants to look at the wages of all the Town temporary workers. They would like information on all department temps for the next SelectBoard meeting. The amount for "Summer Contracted Services" depends on working out a deal with the Town of Hawley. Line #01-422-5300 was changed to \$16,555. It was generally agreed that \$4,500 should be transferred to the Transfer Station Budget for the contracted plowing done there. See line # 01-423-5300 – it was changed to \$4,000 in the "Request" column. The new highway truck authorized last year has been built and is waiting to be equipped.
3. The meeting minutes of the October 6, 2017 meeting were approved as written.
4. The minutes of the February 14, 2017 meeting were approved as written.
5. The Finance Committee Budget was presented, with \$150 for expenses and \$15,000 for the Reserve Fund.
6. OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) Policy: Marguerite Willis is concerned about future retirement expenses. A Trust Fund would need to be established, with approval at an Annual Town Meeting. An actuarial study should be done first. The Town is only responsible for retiree health benefits. Marguerite moved that information be sought for this initiative. The motion was seconded and passed.
7. Fuel Expense: Peg Dean will ask the Fuel Monitoring System to generate a report.
8. Special Funds: Updates needed from Peg and Kathy.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith

Documents reviewed:

Financial spreadsheet for Highway Budget

Financial spreadsheet for the Finance Committee

Policy Statement for "Other Post Employment Benefits"