

**Town of Marlborough
Board of Finance
Regular Meeting
December 9, 2015, 7:00 P.M.
Marlborough Town Hall Conference Room**

Call to Order

Chairman Knowlton called the regular meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Seated were regular members Cliff Denniss, Ken Hjulstrom, Doug Knowlton, Susan Leser and Eric Young (7:10 p.m.).

Public Comments

None

Additions to the Agenda

None

Approval of Minutes

MOTION Mr. Denniss made a motion, seconded by Ms. Leser, to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2015 regular meeting with the following correction:

- On Page 3, Under the Selectman Report – the Fire Department gave a \$2,500 deposit towards the fireworks for the Christmas tree lighting ceremony. They did not contribute \$2,000.

All voted in favor of the motion.

Review of Correspondence

1. Mr. Knowlton has emailed the Board the final draft of the AHM Compact.
2. Also emailed was the Educational Cost Sharing budget information from the state. It seems that the ECS grant is remaining about the same as last year.
3. The Tax Collector sent a memo concerning the motor vehicle mill rate. Beginning for the October 1, 2015 assessment, the rate cannot be higher than 32 mills and then it will be 29.36 mills from 2016 thereafter.
4. First Selectman has sent the Boards and departments 2016-17 budget and capital item forms for submission by January 19, 2016. The BOF will do theirs at their next meeting. The audit cost will need to be verified first.

Monthly Financial Reports

Mr. Denniss questioned the \$3,205 in the revenue for civil preparedness. Possibly that was a grant. The Board was interested in knowing how much money the outgoing First Selectman received for unused sick and vacation time. They are guessing that the \$18,917.92 under Appointed Personnel – Compensated Absences for the past month is the amount.

Reports

WPCA– Cliff Denniss reported that WPCA is holding a public hearing at the center senior regarding Phase 3 construction bid alternatives.

Local BOE – Mr. Denniss told the Board that BOE elected officers. Chair is Ruth Kelly, Vice Chair is Wes Sikorsky, and Louise Concodello is Secretary. Mr. Denniss reported the school has received three grants.

The Title 1 grant for \$25,271; Title 2 for \$7,108, and \$52,989 from the REAP grant. None of this approximate \$85,000 is ever put into the BOE budget which is one of the reasons why it appears that we don't spend as much on our students compared to other towns. NES Development Council is projecting the student population to continue to decrease over the next ten years. Currently the population is 505; with a projection of 476 for FY 2017/18 and down to under 400 in ten years. The gym floor was refinished and MYAL contributed to the cost.

Selectmen Report – Mr. Shea said they applied for two LOTCIP grants. These are 80/20 funding, plus engineering costs. They decided to apply since they will have two years to use the money and they can decide to decline the grant. The two projects are the extension of the Blackridge River Greenway Trail and the South Main Street Pavement Rehabilitation Project Phase II. The Moose property closed and it will become a winery with a café, tasting room, and a place to hold special events. The new police cruiser has arrived and is being outfitted. The budget is about \$20,000 short for the Resident State Trooper (RST) program with the new state calculations. Hebron is considering dropping a RST and Marlborough may need to do the same thing. The utility truck should be coming in soon. The BOS has not heard anything from our state reps about finding any grants to help with the RHAM projects. RHAM is currently negotiating the nurses' contract. There are two nurses and they formed a union. The RHAM BOE will vote on new officers at their next meeting. Our Planning Commission elected Wendy Nicols as Chairman, Brendan Montstream as Vice Chair and Bob Stankowitz as Secretary. Larry Prior was moved to a full member so there is an alternate vacancy on the Commission. The Boards and Commissions are getting new email addresses soon. The Phase 3 sewer project contract has been signed by the state but work cannot begin until March. They have not yet heard about the STEAP grant for the water system. The Ridgewood Road tennis court is being resurfaced. Public Works is still gathering quotes for the generator. The bank will own all three Tavern properties as of January 1, 2016, which means that someone can purchase one or more of the parcels.

Adjournment

Ms. Leser made a motion, seconded by Mr. Young, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Debby Rihm
Board Clerk