Town of Lunenburg

Finance Committee:
Mark Erickson, Chairman
Brian Laffond, Vice-Chairman
Terri Burchfield, Secretary
Jason Smith
John Male
Scott Gile
Steven Raboin

17 Main Street, P.O. Box 135
Lunenburg, MA 01462-0135
978.582.4139
FAX 978.582.4148

Mark Erickson 2/7/13

Lunenburg Finance Committee
Minutes
1/24/2013

Location:	Town Hall
Present:	M. Erickson, B. Laffond, J. Male, S. Gile, S. Raboin, T. Burchfield
Absent:	J. Smith
Also Present:	K. Speidel, M. Benson, M. Sauvageau, J. Carrier

1. Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm.
2. Meet and greet
   The Planning Director, Building Commission/Zoning Officer, and Conservation Commission Administrative Assistant were present for an informal discussion of departmental operations and needs. Information was presented and discussed regarding current operational status, challenges, initiatives, and trends.
3. Communications
- No public comment.
- Scott Gile's resignation from the Committee, effective on conclusion of this meeting, was shared. The Town Moderator has been informed, and efforts will be made to fill the vacancy.
- The Planning Board will be holding public hearings on 1/28/13 and 1/30/13. The 1/30 public hearing involves Aro Estates, part of which is on a plot of land that the community may exercise right of first refusal to purchase. Such a purchase would require a debt exclusion and override. The FinCom will need to plan for a public hearing in advance of a special town meeting (STM) and election, should they be required. If they are required, the STM is tentatively scheduled for March 12th.
4. Minutes
   The minutes of 1/10/2013 require corrections and will be reviewed at the next meeting.
5. Committee Updates
   SR reported that the Capital Planning Committee continues to be on target to have recommendations reached within the next few weeks.
   ME reported on the progress of the School Building Committee. There will be a hearing in Boston on 2/5 to select the design firm.
6. Town Manager Updates
   The Governor's budget is out. There are no surprises, and the cherry sheets are not out yet. This Committee agrees that assumptions used to develop the financial forecast should not be adjusted.
7. Discussion Points
   - 5 Year Forecast. ME suggested a placeholder for the school building project be entered. As there is no specific plan or data to enter, a footnote will be included just discussing the potential need for funding this project in the future.
   - Finance Committee Report for Annual Town Report. ME circulated a draft and asked that comments be forwarded to him.
   - Kerry will talk to the Littleton Town Manager regarding the results of their energy audit and whether Lunenburg might benefit from that process.
8. Next Meetings
   - 2/7 meet and greet with departments to continue, look at budget hearing schedule
   - 2/28 budget presentation
   - If a Special Town Meeting is scheduled for March 12th, we will meet for a public hearing on March 7th.
   - Question was raised about looking into the cost of renting vs. owning street lights.
9. SG motioned to adjourn at 9:15. SR seconded, approved 6-0.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Terri Burchfield.