

Town of Lunenburg

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

Mark Erickson
3/14/13

Lunenburg Finance Committee Minutes 2/28/2013

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

1. Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm.
2. Communications
From the public:
 - Tom Alonzo encouraged people to attend the 'Are You Smarter Than a 6th Grader' event happening Friday night.From the Committee:
 - ME read the notice inviting people interested in filling the Finance Committee vacancy to apply.
 - ME noted that the Citizens Party Caucus will be March 11th at the Turkey Hill Middle School.
 - The Annual Town Election has been moved to Tuesday, April 30th to coincide with the state election.
3. Minutes
BL made a motion to approve the minutes of 2/7/2013 as presented. JM seconded, approved unanimously.
4. Town Manager Updates
Snow and ice deficit. The Town Manager reported that we are anticipated to exceed our snow and ice budget. ME explained that this is the only line item where deficit spending is allowed, as it is one of the most difficult to project. The town has been increasing the budgeted amount to try to get closer to historical spending. The Town Manager requested approval to spend in excess of the budget. TB motioned to permit the Town Manager to spend in excess of the budgeted amount. JS seconded, motion carried unanimously.
The Town Manager brought forward a reserve transfer request in the amount of \$5,041.84 to cover the cost of the pump repair that was anticipated last fall. The Committee voted at that time to commit the funds if they were actually needed. The Committee continues to want to wait to see if the reserve transfer will still be necessary, or if it might be made up through savings elsewhere. BL motioned to table the request until we are closer to town meeting. JS seconded, motion passed unanimously.
The proposed schedule for budget hearings running through the month of March was reviewed. We had originally thought we could have discussions regarding recommendations at a meeting on April 4th, but will not have enough time to have the recommendations set for the warrant, so that meeting may not happen.
5. Budget Presentation
The Town Manager presented her budget recommendations as posted on the town website. The Committee Chair invited questions and comments. Dave Matthews thanked the Town Manager for her work on the budget and encouraged people to attend or watch the public hearings on the budget over the next month. Mark Erickson thanked the Town Manager, and echoed the invitation to the public to actively participate in the upcoming discussions.
6. Next Meetings
 - Public Hearings Thursday March 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th. All departments have been scheduled to present their budgets.
7. BL motioned to adjourn at 9:04. JS seconded, approved 5-0.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Terri Burchfield.