Town of Lunenburg

Finance Committee:
Mark Erickson, Chairman
Terri Burchfield, Vice Chairman
John Henshaw
Karin Menard
Caroline Griffis
Jay Simeone

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Mark Erickson 6/11/15

Lunenburg Finance Committee
Minutes
May 14, 2015

Location:	Town Hall
Present:	M. Erickson, T. Burchfield, K. Menard, Jay Simeone
Also Present:	Jamie Toale - BOS Liaison, Kerry Speidel, Town Manager
Absent:	J. Henshaw, C. Griffis

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.
2. Annual Town Meeting Recap
    a. Lost Quorum - remaining articles can be taken up at Special Town Meeting anticipate for fall of 2015.
3. Town Manager Updates
    a. Senate Budget Committee released their version of the budget. Full senate hasn't voted. Slightly more favorable than the numbers used to create budget presented at Annual Town Meeting. Possible opportunity to make some adjustment/increase at town meeting in fall.
    b. Budgeted 116k to the School District for one-time expenses but state budget has more coming back to the town than that amount. K.S. would be surprised if they asked for the balance as the school doesn't have any other one-time expenses in their FY16 budget. Remaining monies would fall to free cash. T.B. asked about latest TIP meeting.
    c. Per K.S. Summer Street still programmed at 100% in FY17. Close to having required public hearing. One interesting comment was that highway safety improvement funds are used for projects at high accident sites but in this region there are not enough projects to use those funds. Towns were told if they had potential projects that might meet the criteria they should submit. Chase Road may be a potential project that could be submitted.
4. General OPEB discussion
    a. K.S. - Selectmen have some ability to put forth health insurance regulations (i.e. retirement eligibility timing - elect to take health care at time of retirement vs. further down the line) to gain a better idea when projecting our costs. We are seeing retirees joining the plan years after retirement because of the changes we have made that make the costs of our insurance plans a better deal. J.S. asked what other towns do and K.S. said many already have this sort of regulation in place.
    b. ~265 town employees (including retirees) and approximately the same amount from the school are enrolled in town insurance plans.
    c. We don't currently cover reserve officers but Affordable Care Act may change that if they work 30 or more hours per week.
5. Meeting Minutes
    a. T.B. motioned to accept the minutes of 4/2/15. J.S. seconded. No discussion. Motioned moved 4-0.
    b. T.B. motioned to accept the minutes of 4/23/15. J.S. seconded. No discussion. Motioned moved 4-0.
6. Committee and Department Reports
    a. Capital Planning - Over the summer K.S. will ask departments to prepare 10 year capital plan to look at long term funding proposal for capital planning purposes.
    b. Public Safety - Per T.B. chiefs anticipate being on target.

c. Sewer Commission - Per J.S. they had a discussion on small water systems and grease traps at their last meeting. Pleasant View project is moving forward.

d. Lunenburg Public Schools - K.M. reports they are moving $17k from electricity line to gas line. Gas supply costs are up and electricity costs are down. Reduction in electricity is due to LED lighting in select locations, 4 variable speed drives, and a new air compressor that is now 1/2 horse power that replaced an old 1 horse power compressor.

e. Building Reuse Committee - M.E. said School Committee and Building Reuse Committee had a joint meeting to establish clear lot lines for TCP property. Question arose as to whether it would create issues with the MSBA as it would be a change to the approved plan for the property lines of the new school site. At subsequent joint Building Reuse Committee and School Building Committee meeting it was determined that taking parking spots away from the school project, in order to draw the lot line further away from the TC Passios Building, shouldn't be an issue as long as those parking spots are replaced elsewhere. They have asked architect to draw plan of what that would look like.

f. School Building Committee - Per M.E. SBC toured the building. Concrete flooring is 75% poured and roofing laid on two wings. First layer of external siding is up on building B and the inside is starting to take shape. Fire proofing laterally completed on building A. They are several weeks behind due to weather but are anticipating making up that time with no adjustment needed to completion and occupancy dates. Change order for $51k was made for plumbing work that was not depicted in drawing but required by code. J.S. questioned why this would fall under the contingency funds as it was it wasn't something changed or unforeseen. According to M.E., the architects don't guarantee drawing articles to be 100% complete and this should not be a cause for concern.

7. Miscellaneous Items-

a. J.S. asked about 80 West St. (old Parks Department building) - K.S. said it was declared surplus and trying to tie it with the cemetery property to see if anyone wants to raise an move it.

b. Street Lights - Can we purchase to maintain ourselves? K.S. thought she had a consultant to work on this but it fell through. Green Communities Task Force not interested in the project as the payout is too long. Would need to find a new consultant to work with to do a valuation so the town can go back and forth with Unitil on purchase price. Will put on list for future budget opportunity.

a

c. K.S. mentioned fire chief made presentation on transitioning from intermediate to advanced ambulance service as the state will no longer license ambulances as intermediate in 2017 and are only licensing at basic, advanced or paramedic. Advanced level of service would significantly increase what we are able to provide. Approximately $6700 would be needed in equipment and medicines, and there would be additional personnel cost. Four employees are already paramedic level although they are not functioning as such for the town and 4 would need additional training as they are intermediate licensed. Important for the department to get a sense if this is something the town wants to do as it's a big commitment for the individuals to obtain and maintain higher level licensing.

8. Next Meeting - ~~June 8,~~ 2015, 7pm at Town Hall.

9. K.M. motioned to adjourn. J.S. seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

JUN 11

Minutes respectfully submitted by Karin Menard.

RECEIVED & FILED

JUN 15 2015

LUNENBURG TOWN CLERK OFFICE