

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lois Stearns, Bernhard Porada, Tony Matteo and Sue Kaczinski

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Bonnie L'Etoile and Dan Campbell

ALSO PRESENT: Deb Mero, Town Accountant; Willie Morales, Town Administrator; Deb Kern, Library Director; John McGowan, Library Trustee; and Tom Walker, Highway Superintendent

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Stearns.

This meeting was video recorded.

• **BUDGET DISCUSSION**

○ Dickinson Library

- Kern explained how the library needs to meet specific requirements in order to be certified by State.
- Increases to Water and CW Mars account, Decreases to office supplies and maintenance supplies account.
- Farms Library is considered in the total budget
- No articles. Money left in the Climate Control article to remain there. Kern stated there may be a need to use this money as she has heard that the compressor for the A/C unit may need to be updated.

6:16 Kern and McGowan leave FINCOM meeting

○ Highway, Trees and Cemetery

- Walker stated that the Tree portion of the budget is requested to be level funded
- Highway Expenses increase due to certain jobs needing to go out to bid by the COG. Walker said he's seen COG charge anywhere between \$200-750 to go out for bid for them.
- Seminars and Licenses increase due to certain requirements set by the state (i.e. license renewals and classes)
- Wages increase due to a proposal (to be voted on by Selectboard 1/23/18) to put the Town Maintenance person under Highway completely. Mero stated it would be a separate sub category in the wages account. Memo produced by Morales to Stearns/FINCOM explaining this proposal.
- Highway Bridges and Rails increase due to cost of asphalt and pipe. Walker stated that there are a couple big jobs coming up and it is not certain whether or not these roads are chapter 90 roads, therefore, not certain whether or not ch.90 funds would be available.
- Cemeteries requested to be level funded. Will be going out to bid. Currently Snow and Sons has responsibility.
- Review of Capital items. No items for FY19. Walker bumped a few items back a year or two to try to get some more life out of the trucks, however with that, the cost of replacement does go up. Stearns asked about other towns and whether or not they lease vehicles; Walker stated that a lot of towns do lease because of wiring and electrical issues with trucks and the fact that trade values tend to be quite low.

6:58 Walker leaves FINCOM meeting and

Heather Tower, COA Director and Gwen Trelle, Chair of COA, join FINCOM

○ Council on Aging

- Overall the budget requested to be level funded. Increases in meetings and seminars and postage account were balanced out by the decreases in office supplies.
- Discussion on programs and attendance at Senior Center. Also discussed the space needs for the senior center.

7:19 Tower and Trelle leave FINCOM Meeting

- **MINUTES**

- Minutes from the January 8th, 2017 meeting were reviewed. *A motion was made by Porada, seconded by Matteo and VOTED unanimously to accept the January 8th, 2017 meeting minutes as written.*

- **MAIL**

- No mail

- **SPECIAL ARTICLES REQUESTED BY FINCOM**

- Stearns to submit to Selectboard the FINCOM articles (omnibus, contingency and stabilization and possibly OPEB if needed) by 2/28/18. Morales thought that FRCOG may have quarterly figures (estimates) on OPEB that Mero could look into

- **MEETINGS ATTENDED AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FINCOM**

- Porada: No meeting of the Public Safety Facility. Per Morales, there should be news on the title search by the second week of February.
- Porada: Town Governance Study Committee (TGSC); No word from any members.
- Matteo: Community Preservation Committee met on 1/18/2018 and received (3) proposals. Committee meeting again on 2/18/18 to have those who submitted proposals in to discuss them. Matteo stated that 1 proposal was small and 2 were large; potentially use up all the CPA funds. Group will submit articles for the proposals that they decide to go forward with. Group will also be submitting an article to raise CPA from ½% to 1%. Matteo announced that they now have a Recreation Department member on the CPC.
- Porada asked Morales if the Selectboard had heard from the PVRS school committee about their budget and/or a request for delay. Per Morales, no word as of yet.
- Stearns sent follow up reminders for departments/committees that have yet to turn in their budget requests

- **NEXT MEETING**

- 2/5/18 6pm, 2/26/18 6pm

A motion was made by Matteo, seconded by Kaczinski and VOTED unanimously to adjourn the FINCOM Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm

Submitted by:

Bethany Walker

FINCOM Secretary

Approved On: 2-5-18

Approved By: Lois M. Stearns