

Meals leaves meeting, Rich Fitzgerald from the Planning Board joins meeting

- **Planning Board Budget**

- Rich Fitzgerald presented the Planning Board budget
  - Only change to budget is eliminating the \$150 for Dues and Memberships; Fitzgerald stated that they haven't used this for the last 3 years and felt it was ok to remove.
- **Update/Discussion on the proposed new Zoning By-Laws**
  - Fitzgerald advised that they are working on setting several dates to have open meetings on the proposed by laws, they are trying to get everyone up to speed with what is going on. There was feedback that townspeople were not fully aware of all the changes, and that is why the article was removed from the Special Town Meeting back in December of 2016. The next public hearing is tentatively scheduled for 3/8/17.

7:45 Fitzgerald leaves meeting

- **Minutes**

- Minutes from the December 19, 2016 meeting were reviewed. *A motion was made by Glover, seconded by Matteo and VOTED unanimously to accept the December 19, 2016 meeting minutes as written.*
- Minutes from the January 9, 2017 meeting were reviewed. *A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Porada and VOTED unanimously to accept the January 9, 2017 meeting minutes as written.*

- **Mail**

- No Transfer Requests
- It was approved by the Governor (based on the approval at Town Meeting vote) to make the Tax Collector and the Treasurer positions appointed instead of elected
- Letter from the Energy Committee; a review over the last 4 years as a Green Community

- **Meetings Attended as representatives of the FINCOM**

- Stearns and Matteo briefly updated group about the meeting that was held with the PVRSD 4 towns Selectboard members, FINCOM members and the public. Matteo stated that based on the first meeting it was presented that 2 members from each town were to be appointed to the committee. Tracy Rogers and Tony Matteo were chosen for Northfield. Matteo continued to say that after the results of the first meeting, it was determined at the second meeting that there should possibly be 3 representatives from each town. This committee is to review the Regional Agreement, but Matteo stated that it could potentially expand.
- Stearns advised that the final budget meeting for PVRSD is to be held on February 2 and the required hearing is set for February 7, 2017.
- Matteo updated the group on the CPC. Next meeting January 31<sup>st</sup>, at 7pm. Meeting will be just reviewing applications, no decisions. Still looking for representatives from the CONSCOM and the Recreation Commission.
- Glover reported that he and Kathy Wright (Building Utilization) met on January 18<sup>th</sup> and compiled a list of projects. Some of the projects may qualify with CPA funds.

- **Miscellaneous**

- Stearns advised that the CONSCOM has yet to turn in a budget request.
- Stearns wanted the FINCOM opinion on meeting with the smaller boards to go over their budgets.
  - FINCOM would like to meet with the Historical Commission to discuss their Capital Request items; Stearns to contact a member.



**Board Members Present:** Lois Stearns, Dan Campbell, Tony Matteo, Bernhard Porada and Chad Glover

**Also Present:** Deb Mero, Town Accountant; Paul Boushell, Interim Town Administrator; and Skip Dunnell, Fire Chief

**Board Members Absent:** Bonnie L'Etoile

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Stearns. This meeting was video recorded.

- **Fire Department Budget**
  - Dunnell presented the Fire Department budget request; explaining the increases and the decrease
    - 3% increase to the wages and salaries line items
    - FRCOG radio, needing to replace some as the option to repair is no longer
    - Fire Dept. Hose & Equipment increase for air packs; on a staggering schedule for replacement
    - Fire Station Maintenance Fuel Oil decrease as Dunnell doesn't foresee a high cost to oil
  - Dunnell presented the Capital Request
    - FY2018 requesting \$35,000 for site design for the Fire Station
    - FY2019 requesting \$350,000 to purchase a used ladder truck (existing truck is nearing 40 years old)
    - FY2021 requesting \$150,000 for new chassis for rescue truck
    - Fire Station no year set estimated \$2,500,000
- **Emergency Management Budget**
  - Dunnell presented the Emergency Management Budget (also known as Civil Defense)
    - Increasing the purchase services line due to the use of the Reverse 911/Code Red. Vermont Yankee used to cover this expense; however, since it is now closed the Town covers the expense.
    - VT Yankee is covering the cost associated with the wages for the Director, Assistant Director and the Administrator for one more year, however after the year is up, may not need as much funds, depending on the work load

Dunnell Leaves Meeting, Eric Meals from the Sewer Department Joins Meeting

- **Sewer Budget**
  - Meals presented the Sewer Department Budget
    - The wages line item had a 1% increase
    - Increase to the Collection System due to inspections and repairs that may not always be foreseen
    - Clothing increase by \$100
    - Lab Supplies also increased due to cost
  - Sewer Updates
    - Meals advised that the truck purchased for the Sewer Department should arrive in the next 2 weeks
  - Meals discussed the Capital Request item
    - Requesting \$165,000 (technically only \$115,000 as \$50,000 has already been established) for the Wastewater Management Plan & I/I Investigations. The loan would be for a total amount of \$165,000 and be paid back in 3-5 years, the users would likely see a very slight rate increase, but Meals states it may not affect the rate. Mero advised that the Article, when written, should be for authorization for \$115,000 and then to consolidate the two loans for a total of \$165,000.

- Campbell advised that the Non Partisan Caucus will be tentatively held on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017. The non-partisan caucus committee is meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup> and will confirm the 2/21 meeting date.
  - The Selectboard will have to appoint and determine the length of time for the Tax Collector position.
- Boushell looking into an issue on the roof of the highway garage

- **Next Meeting (s)**

- FINCOM Meeting 2/6/2017, 2/13/2017 and 2/27/2017 (no meeting on 2/20 as it is a holiday)

*A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Glover and **VOTED** unanimously to adjourn the FINCOM Meeting.*  
Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm

Submitted by:

Bethany Walker

FINCOM Secretary

Approved On: 2-6-17

Approved By: Lois M. Hearn

