

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
7:30 PM O'NEILL ROOM COMMUNITY SAFETY BUILDING
11/14/07

ATTENDEES:

McGaffigan		Dunn*		Mahoney
DeCoursey*	Connors*	Simmons*	Bayer*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst	Ronan	
Ferrara*	Franclemont*	Jones*	Olsen*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning*	Carman	Kneeland*

* Indicates present

GENERAL: The State has a large budget deficit (about \$1b). We are unlikely to get a large state aid increase. Budget books are expected in the first week of Jan. No meetings are expected until then.

RESERVE FUND TRANSFER REQUESTS:

Board of Selectmen for special election (primary & final) for State Senate: General Government SubCom (DuBois) recommended an \$800 increase over the amount requested to account for DPW salary increases. VOTED to transfer \$74,300 Unanimous

Town Clerk for special election for State Senate (primary & final): General Government SubCom (DuBois) recommended the transfer as requested. VOTED to transfer \$4,076.50. Unanimous

Treasurer for 2 retirement buybacks: Finances SubCom (Foskett) recommended the transfer as requested. The Chair had asked the Treasurer to absorb part of the cost. VOTED to transfer \$20,000 and to encumber the balance of the request (\$4917.27). 13-0-1

Capital Plan for Buzzell Field overrun: Capital Planning Committee Chair (Foskett) described a recent CPC mtg where this topic was discussed at length. The total expected overrun is \$70k. There are funds remaining from the Reservoir renovation. Hence the requested amount is \$20k with the balance coming from the Res. This is possible since funds for both projects were borrowed under the same legal authorization. VOTED \$20,000. Unanimous.

FIRE STATION STUDY COMMITTEE: Tosti reported that the best place for a new station would be Hill's Hill. He believes approval for this location is uncertain. The backup plan is to renovate both stations in place. The committee also recommended making all traffic lights turn green as fire engine approaches. This would improve response time. Park Circle still not occupied by firemen.

SYMMES: About half the BANS have been paid by the sale of the site. Permanent financing should be in place in 2 yrs.

SCHOOLS: The MM & Arlington superintendents met. MM now takes about 10% of the town's public high school students. MM has lost about 10% of its students & is cutting programs.

COMMITTEE: There are vacancies in Pcts 6, 16, 17 as well as Executive Secretary. Dec 1 is the deadline for applications.

RESERVE FUND BALANCE: \$400,000-\$74,300-\$4,076.45-\$24,917.27-\$20,000=\$276,706.28 The Chair will write to the appointing authorities to be sure they understand this situation.

Peter B Howard Secretary 11/14/07

cc FinCom Members, Selectmen, Town Manager, Comptroller, Library File, Town Web Site FinCom Web Site