

JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
7/29/09

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Meeting Date: July 29, 2009

Called to Order: 6:02 PM

Finance Committee Members Present: Michael Naughton, Marje Levenson and John Hanold. Rob Allen and Lynn Reynolds were absent.

Montague Selectmen Present: Pat Allen, Mark Fairbrother and Patricia Pruitt

Others Present: Frank Abbondanzio (Town Administrator) and Carolyn Olsen (Town Accountant), Carl Ladd (GMRSD Superintendent), Lynn Bassett (GMRSD Director of Business), Jeff Singleton (GMRSD School Committee), and Arn Albertini (press)

GMRSD

GMRSD Superintendent Carl Ladd introduced himself and there was a general discussion about school budget considerations and the relationships between the town and district.

Minutes

BOS Moved: To approve the minutes of June 24, 2009.

Vote: 3 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

FC Moved: To approve the minutes of July 13, 2009.

Vote: 3 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

BOS Moved: To approve the minutes of July 21, 2009.

Vote: 2 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstained

Special Town Meeting August 5, 2009

#1 Supplemental Appropriation for GMRSD Assessment

Mr. Naughton proposed an amendment to the GMRSD assessment to \$7,120,370, which is the affordable assessment adjusted by final town state aid.

BOS Moved: To recommend a FY10 GMRSD assessment to Montague of \$7,120,370.

Vote: 2 In Favor 1 Opposed 0 Abstained

FC Moved: To recommend a FY10 GMRSD assessment to Montague of \$7,120,370.

Vote: 3 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

#2 Local Option Tax on Meals.

BOS Moved: To recommend article #2.

Vote: 3 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

FC Moved: To recommend article #2.

Vote: 3 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

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#3 Local Option Tax on Lodgings

BOS Moved: To recommend article #3.

Vote: 3 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

FC Moved: To recommend article #3.

Vote: 3 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

#4 Use of Retained Earnings to Reduce Sewer Rates

FC Moved: To recommend the use of retained earnings to reduce sewer rates.

Vote: 3 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

BOS adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Reorganization

FC Moved: To keep the same officers as we currently have.

Vote: 3 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

Meeting Schedule and Times

It was suggested to keep Wednesday as the day for Finance Committee meetings but to begin them at 6:00 PM. This was agreed on by all members present.

Meeting Schedule: Weekly meetings will be scheduled from September 9th through September 30th. The meetings are scheduled so that the committee can work through the to-do list prior to starting the FY2011 budget process. The September meetings will have short, specific agendas to accomplish this task.

Record to show that the Chair asked people to pay attention to the agendas and be prepared to discuss the agenda items.

There was a brief discussion of workload sharing per Mr. Hanold's e-mail of July 27th. Ms. Levenson is interested in the GMRSD and DPW. Mr. Hanold is interested in Police, Dispatch and the core administration functions (finance and Town Clerk). Mr. Naughton suggested pursuing when all members are present.

Adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carolyn Olsen