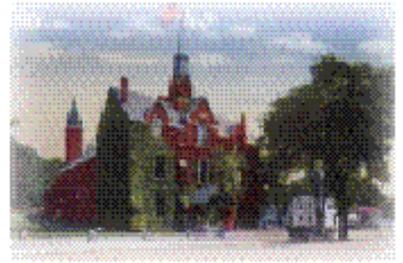


# Town of Ayer

## Finance Committee

### Ayer Massachusetts, 01432



Location: Ayer Town Hall, Meeting Room  
Finance Committee Minutes

Tuesday January 17, 2012

Present: Brian Muldoon; Chairman, Scott Houde; Vice Chairman, John Kilcommins; Clerk, Michael Pattenden; Member

In Attendance: Mary Spinner, Bill Daniels, Jessica Gugino

Called to order at 7:15 pm by Brian Muldoon

- Capital Budget
  - MS Initiated a discussion of the proposed FY13 budget.
  - MS-On an annual basis Capital Planning reaches out to each department for capital needs and their justification.
  - MS Led a discussion of the needs of the water department and waste water treatment.
  - MS-All pump stations are very old, they are in need of repair or replacement.
  - BM-Per Robert Pontbriand if we don't have updated street signage we could face fines.
  - SH-Is there a minimum dollar limit to use capital stabilization funds? The Parks Department needs \$6K for a mower.
  - MS-We try to be careful what we take out of there. Usually need a \$20K minimum. We have bought some things for as little as \$10K.
  - SH-We have assets that are long term in nature like a mower, how can we obtain these if they are below the threshold?
  - MS-You should put in a one time line item in their budget. Does he need one or two mowers?
  - JK-Two.
  - SH-Per Lisa Gabree we can't combine assets to meet the minimum asset threshold.
  - MS-Submit the two mower request for a total of \$12K. We just don't want to dip into the capital stabilization fund for everything.
  - MS Described additional requests for a new phone system as well as improvements (flooring, carpeting) for town hall.
  - SH-What are we doing about capital exclusions?
  - MS-Not my idea, its Robert's.
  - BM-Scott, please follow up with Robert regarding capital exclusions.
  
- Conservation Commission
  - BD Initiated a discussion of the proposed FY13 budget.
  - BD-We are a simple small budget. Our figures are limited to supplies and Becky (DaSilva-Conde). We have nothing left to cut.
  - BD-Each year we have to supplement Becky's wages using wetlands funds. This comes to an average of \$2,500, so 25% of our budget is from outside sources. If Becky gets another raise we'll need to cut her hours to fit under the budget.
  - JD-We are looking for 5 more hours per week.
  - SH-At 52 weeks that's about \$5K per year.
  - BD Led a discussion of DaSilva-Conde's job duties and responsibilities.
  - BM-How do we compare to other towns?
  - JD-A lot of them have full time conservation commissioners.
  - BM-Town's needs vary by what is in each town. It would be great if you could explain the need for 15 hours per week at town meeting.
  - BD-Great idea.
  - BD-There is also the issue of storm water management. There is a state regulation that requires each town to have a storm water bylaw. We are not doing this now as there are no fines to motivate the town. Under the current time constraints there is no way Becky can do all this now.
  - BD-We cannot charge fees, we need a bylaw to get the statutory authority.

# Town of Ayer

## Finance Committee

### Ayer Massachusetts, 01432



- MP-I suggest that this be brought to town meeting and be added to your bylaws.
- BD-Reality is that a fee would be an augmentation and not a replacement of the 5 hours of funding we are requesting.
- SH-The general fund would receive these fees, they would not go directly to the ConsCom.
  
- Motion to adjourn at 8:59 pm

Motion	SH
Second	JK
B. Muldoon	Aye
S. Houde	Aye
J. Kilcommins	Aye
M. Pattenden	Aye
Vote	4 – 0

Brian Muldoon, Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Scott Houde, Vice Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

John Kilcommins, Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Michael Pattenden, member \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_