

Town of Ayer

Finance Committee

Ayer Massachusetts, 01432



Location: Ayer Town Hall, Treasurer's Room.
Finance Committee Minutes

Wednesday July 14, 2010

Present: Brian Muldoon; Chairman, Jesse Reich; Vice-Chairman, members Scott Houde and Andrew Crowley
Late arrival: Clerk Glen Lapierre

Called to order at 7:22 pm by Brian Muldoon

1) Reserve Fund Transfers:

- a. Tax Collector Transfer to account 01146 for Invoices in hand totaling \$3,543.84 for transfer audit, quarterly tax assessment, office supplies. New file cabinet was needed for records that must be permanently stored in Town Hall.

Motion	JR
Second	SH
B. Muldoon	Aye
J. Reich	Aye
G. Lapierre	Absent
S. Houde	Aye
A. Crowley	Aye

- b. Veterans Agent reserve fund transfer to account 01543 totaling \$328.00 for transition of veterans agent due to the passing of Manny. Manny was paid at the beginning of the month but passed away mid month. This transfer is to cover the month when payment was made to Manny and the new agent.

Motion	JR
Second	AC
B. Muldoon	Aye
J. Reich	Aye
G. Lapierre	Absent
S. Houde	Aye
A. Crowley	Aye

- c. Reserve Fund transfer to account 01424 totaling \$3,225.63 for overspend on FY2010 budget. The over spend was due to short budget in anticipation of lights being shut off during FY2010. However, DPW did not find the shutting lights off were a significant savings.

Motion	AC
Second	SH
B. Muldoon	Aye
J. Reich	Aye
G. Lapierre	Absent
S. Houde	Aye
A. Crowley	Aye

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- d. Treasurer transfer to account 01158 totaling \$1,017.00 for tax foreclosure expenses in 2010. Tax foreclosures tend to increase during tough economic times including FY2010.

Motion	AC
Second	SH
B. Muldoon	Aye
J. Reich	Aye
G. Lapierre	Absent
S. Houde	Aye
A. Crowley	Aye

- e. Board of Selectmen transfer to account 01122 totaling \$1,527.85 for transition costs related to interim town administrator, advertising for Town Administrator position and unpaid vacation for outgoing Town Administrator.

Motion	JR
Second	SH
B. Muldoon	Aye
J. Reich	Aye
G. Lapierre	Absent
S. Houde	Aye
A. Crowley	Aye

Move to session in Town Hall meeting room at 7:37pm

2. Vocational Education Reserve Fund Transfer

- a. Vocational Education reserve fund transfer to account 01331 totaling \$88,751.85 for assessment increase due to budget shortfall from state funding. The Ayer School Committee pledged \$20,000 from the school budget to assist in the cost. Pauline Conley presented FinCom with an article from the Shirley Oracle detailing the school committee's June 30th meeting to increase that amount to \$33,000. However, the deadline, per state law, requires actions for line item transfers by July 15th. Therefore, the FinCom must proceed as currently funded at \$20,000 from the school committee. This transfer depletes the reserve fund to zero.

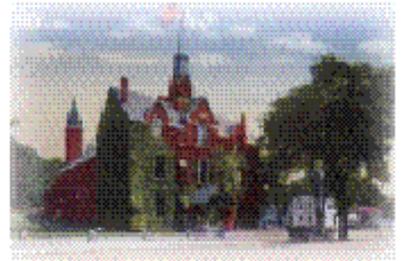
Motion	AC
Second	JR
B. Muldoon	Aye
J. Reich	Aye
G. Lapierre	Aye
S. Houde	Aye
A. Crowley	Aye

- b. Vocational Education line item transfers to account 01331 totaling \$17,343.41. The transfers are proposed by town accountant as: \$5,000 from Principal payments, \$5,000 from Long Term Interest, \$5,000 from Police, and \$2,343.41 from Building Insurance.

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Motion	JR
Second	SH
B. Muldoon	Aye
J. Reich	Aye
G. Lapierre	Aye
S. Houde	Aye
A. Crowley	Aye

- c. The Board of Selectmen (still in session) approved the line item transfers by a vote of 4-0 (G. Luca absent)
- 3. Reimbursement of FinCom expense for B. Muldoon totaling \$179.00 from FinCom budget line for:
 - a. MMA compensation CD
 - b. Subscriptions to the Beacon
 - c. A. Crowley to attend new office forum seminar.
- 4. Capital Planning Committee
 - a. CPC continues to look for a member from FinCom to attend meetings beginning in late Fall. Mary Spinner made personal plea for a member of FinCom to join. However, the meeting times of late afternoon continue to be a deterrent for FinCom members due to meeting time. The discussion pointed towards changes in Open Meeting law regarding calling in to meetings for members.
- 5. Finance Committee appointments for FY2011:
 - a. B. Muldoon to remain a Chairman
 - b. J. Reich to remain as Vice Chair
 - c. G. Lapierre to remain a Clerk
 - d. S. Houde continues to serve on Community Preservation
 - e. A. Crowley continues to serve on Personnel committee.

Motion	JR
Second	AC
B. Muldoon	Aye
J. Reich	Aye
G. Lapierre	Aye
S. Houde	Aye
A. Crowley	Aye

- 6. Mail:
 - a. Kopelman & Page memo on changes in Open Meeting Laws for FY2011
 - b. Compensation CDs were received in prior week
- 7. Minutes for approval:
 - a. Minutes for 2/18/ meeting approved as presented pending One Beacon Litigation.

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Motion	SH
Second	AC
B. Muldoon	Aye
J. Reich	Aye
G. Lapierre	Abstain
S. Houde	Aye
A. Crowley	Aye

8. Energy Committee Update from Jesse Reich:
 - a. JR discussion that “Green Community” status receives \$150,000 grant per year. Member S. Houde asks if funding pool is set at \$150,00 per community or a general fund that may diminish of more towns take “Green” initiatives.
 - b. JR – There are 5 steps to become a “Green” community. Details to follow.
9. Discussion erupts regarding role of FinCom within town bylaws. P. Conley : the FinCom should be a “Watchdog” of financial spending. S.Houde: “We don’t have the tools to be a watch dog group”
10. Motion to Adjourn

Motion	AC
Second	JR
B. Muldoon	Aye
J. Reich	Aye
G. Lapierre	Aye
S. Houde	Aye
A. Crowley	Aye

Brian Muldoon, Chairman _____ Date _____

Jesse Reich, Vice Chairman _____ Date _____

Glen Lapierre, Clerk _____ Date _____

Scott Houde, Member _____ Date _____

Andrew Crowley, Member _____ Date _____