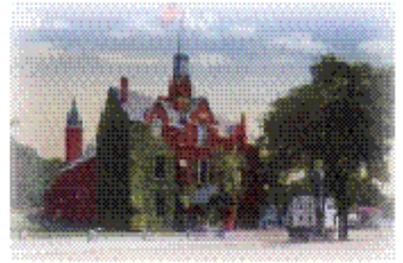


Town of Ayer

Finance Committee

Ayer Massachusetts, 01432



Location: Ayer Town Hall, Meeting Room
Finance Committee Minutes

Tuesday January 10, 2012

Present: Brian Muldoon; Chairman, Scott Houde; Vice Chairman, John Kilcommins; Clerk,
Absent: Michael Pattenden; member
In Attendance: Lisa Gabree, Dan Graham, Jeff Thomas, William Murray

Called to order at 7:05 pm by Brian Muldoon

- General Discussion
 - BM Led a discussion of the upcoming meeting schedule.
 - BM-Jim Fay will be presenting a report on his recent visit to Trinity developments at the 1/11 FinCom meeting.
- Review of the Parks Department Budget
 - JT- Our mowers are failing. Keeping them running is an ongoing problem when you're trying to cut the budget. What is the best way to pursue a new mover?
 - SH-The minimum for a capital purchase is \$10K. Assets cannot be combined (to meet the \$10K threshold).
 - LG-We may be able to use the capital stabilization fund.
 - SH-Who can release fund from capital stabilization?
 - LG-Town meeting. We should look at spending some of this fund each year subject to annual limits.
 - SH-We may be at the point where it's time to tap the rainy day funds. We'll need a raise article out of the general fund for the \$6K needed for the mower.
 - JT-What do you need from us?
 - LG-Detailed mower quotes.
 - JT-The only other real concern (after the mower) is the -3% budget. This budget would mean a reduction in life guard hours. The budget is bare bones now. The other charges line item is for vandalism.
 - BM-At the very best what is the impact if your department goes with level funding?
 - JT-OK with level funding if we get the mower.
 - BM-Do you have revolving funds?
 - JT-Yes. By mandate the soccer, basketball, and swimming programs are self-funded by the fees collected.
 - SH-Who handles the raise articles?
 - LG-FinCom can recommend one to the BOS.
 - SH-Do we have room in the capital budget?
 - LG-Wouldn't borrow money for a new lawn mower.
- Review of the Police Department Budget
 - SH-This budget is 90% contract driven?
 - WM-Yes, it is 93% contract related. Any cuts would have to be to personnel.
 - SH-Are there any open positions in the department?
 - WM-No. We are fully staffed in terms of what the town allows us to have.
 - SH-Do the contracts have steps or do new employees assume the salaries of those they are replacing?
 - WM-Yes, are contracts have steps.
 - JK-Are the cruisers replaced on a one year rotation?
 - WM-We've gotten down to one replacement per year. This keeps down maintenance costs. Rather not lose the annual replacement but if that's what happens.....
 - JK-Is the \$35K replacement figure for a fully outfitted cruiser?

Town of Ayer

Finance Committee

Ayer Massachusetts, 01432



- WM-Yes. We try to use equipment from prior cruisers but there are changes to the model this year.

- General Discussion
 - LG Led a review of those budgets that have yet to be turned in.
 - LF-I saw that the FinCom budget includes level funding for the reserve fund.
 - BM-Yes, we will level fund the reserve fund.
 - LG-I will look into this but I believe that we cannot use the reserve fund for the schools. The reserve funds usually see a big hit but if we can't use reserve funds for the schools then level funding should be ok.

- Motion to adjourn at 8:13 pm

Motion	SH
Second	JK
B. Muldoon	Aye
S. Houde	Aye
J. Kilcommins	Aye
M. Pattenden	Absent
Vote	3 – 0

Brian Muldoon, Chairman _____ Date _____

Scott Houde, Vice Chairman _____ Date _____

John Kilcommins, Clerk _____ Date _____

Michael Pattenden, member _____ N/A _____ Date _____