

**Finance Committee  
Meeting with the Selectmen  
December 21, 2004**

**Attending:** Todd Abbott, Nancy Brandt, John Carter, Brenda Edgerly, Bob Fay, Duane Fay, Doug Foglio, Rebekah Higgins, Cindy Moore

**Not Attending:** David Chauvette, David Fedrizzi

The meeting this evening was a workshop which replaced the regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to pass the budgets received from the Selectmen to the Finance Committee. This must be accomplished 120 days prior to the Annual Town Meeting per order of the Charter. (The 120<sup>th</sup> day would fall on 12-25-04, therefore, this was the only opportunity to exchange the information prior to Christmas this year.)

The total budget requests submitted to date amount to \$10.3 million. Doug indicated that some budget areas warrant an increase in spending and other departments or anticipated spending within departments could be held to the amount for this current year. He also addressed the issue of snowplowing. Foglio Inc. will not be bidding on the snow plow contract for this new year.

Doug indicated that the County Sheriff Department wants all non-police departments to fund their portion of the sheriff protection. Additionally, the Chief proposed that all prisoners at the York County jail will be paid for by the prisoner's home town or city.

The proposed cost of Fire and Rescue dispatch for the upcoming year is \$12,000.00 each. It is possible for the Twelve Town Group to consider a multi-town police department to help bring these costs down.

The Tax Collector is now an hourly position and not salaried.

The Fire Department is considering the possibility of using certified students as fire fighters. A problem has arisen in that full time fire fighters cannot volunteer in their employing town after completing 53 hours of work. Overtime expenses are owed to the state when work hours exceed 53 hours. A plan to provide food and board for student fire fighters will be considered. Alfred has initiated a program such as this and it seems to be working well. It was further suggested that it is now the time to raise fees for responding to non-structure fires.

Duane suggested that a dollar figure be placed in the warrant article. This would allow adjustments to be made to lower the amount but cannot raise the dollar figure.

Doug indicated that further investigation into a shared Town Planner should be reviewed. He also indicated that the Assessing issue needs to be revamped completely and entirely updated.

Regarding the Transfer Station, the new building will be constructed entirely out of "fees" and not at all from taxation dollars. It is undoubtedly going to run out of money this fiscal year due to the increased fees charged at RWS.

Copies of all financial documents regarding check registers, payroll, AP Warrants etc. will be forwarded to the Finance Committee on a monthly basis.

This workshop was concluded at 8:45 P.M.

The next meeting of the Finance Committee is scheduled for January 12, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wendy Carter, Secretary