

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 7, 2005**

ATTENDING: Todd Abbott, Dan Babb, John Carter, Duane Fay, Joyce Young

NOT ATTENDING: Brenda Edgerly, Rebekah Higgin

Chairman, Fay opened the meeting at 7:03p.m. The minutes were read and approved with a correction. The revised minutes should note that the building at the Transfer Station is not completed but is progressing/ A motion to accept as corrected was made and accepted unanimously. It was decided that the next meeting of this committee will be held on December 28th as had been previously posted.

A review of the budget process was made for the committee's newer members. No money articles can be accepted for the warrant 90 days prior to the Town Meeting. Non-money items cannot be made after 60 days prior to the Town Meeting, and after 30 days before the Town Meeting, no further articles can be made.

Todd made a motion to move all budget questions for further discussion to December 28. This was seconded and passed by a vote of 5-0-0.

Some discussion regarding the budget occurred due to the unknown figure of the taxes for the ensuing year. This led to further unknowns centering around the school budget and LD1. It was decided to make SAD 57 an agenda item for each Finance Committee meeting and listed under 'Old Business'.

This committee wishes to invite the Administrator to the meeting on December 28th where she can speak about LD1 and the school's impact on the funding issues and town budget. It was also mentioned that guests are certainly welcome to attend Finance Committee meetings, but will need to make arrangements to be placed on the agenda with a specific topic if anyone wishes to speak.

The Selectmen will hold a workshop on Tuesday, December 20th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss options to funding the Transfer Station without a PPB system.

Mr. Carter made a motion to review committee and department budgets beginning at our first meeting in January. This was seconded by Mr. Abbott and unanimously passed by committee vote.

Sub-Committee Reports:

Dan Babb suggested that sizeable cuts seem possible in the area of Roads. Some discussion revolved around the idea of paving roads when there is no significant development. It seems possible to require the developers to prepare the roads.

The Fire Department has taken ownership of the new ambulance.

The Selectmen have been receiving the new budget requests and it seems likely that copies of these requests will be available to this committee before the next scheduled meeting in December. At that meeting, Finance Recommendations will be made on the 5 Year Capital Plans and budgets will be reviewed. The Administrator had suggested that the Finance Committee and the Selectmen can meet with the department and committee chairmen jointly.

The committee adjourned at 8:40.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the large meeting room

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Carter, Secretary