

Finance Committee Minutes July 12, 2006

Attending: Todd Abbott, Dan Babb, Tina Cote, Brenda Edgerly, Joe Simpson, Paul Verrell, Janice Young

Also Attending: Matthew Bors (Fire Chief), Cindy Moore (Selectman)

Chairman Abbott opened the meeting at 7:05 with the introduction of the Fire Chief. Mr. Bors discussed the severe maintenance and safety issues of three vehicles housed at Central Station. Squad 1 is a 1979 Mack truck purchased used in 2003. Significant issues of corrosion and electrical failures have been routine during the period Waterboro has owned this vehicle. Repairs to this vehicle have totaled about \$15,000 so far. Hartford's Garage has estimated an additional \$10,000-\$20,000+ in required repairs. Mr. Bors brought information about new vehicles which are available and, if acquired, would replace 3 aging trucks currently being used by our Fire Department. This new truck will be available to view this weekend. The cost of this vehicle is \$135,000 with a 10 year lease to own plan available. The committee reviewed the information presented with the Fire Chief and required him to get several other estimates for repair costs to the Squad 1 vehicle to extend its working life until next budget season if possible. The consensus of the committee was that there was a large increase approved for the Fire Department budget at the Town Meeting in April (which did not include vehicle replacement) and a plan to replace department vehicles should be underway before vehicles fail. Creative funding needs to be employed. The Fire Chief will report his findings at the next Finance Committee meeting.

Mr. Abbott nominated Dan Babb for Chairman of this committee for the next fiscal year. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Verrell and resulted in a 6-0-0 vote. Mr. Babb accepted the position.

A letter has been sent to the Administrator and the Selectmen regarding 'line-item-budgeting' and the '5 Year Capital Plan', requesting that a meeting be held with the Board of Selectmen, the Administrator, the Auditor and the Finance Committee to 1) discuss and revise the process, and, 2) to educate the Boards and Departments on format for the upcoming budgeting season. Mrs. Young and Selectman Moore will collaborate to develop a template for budgets and capital plans.

The reports from the Treasurer were incomplete.

Mr. Abbott addressed the issue of stickers used at the Transfer Station. The possible income from the sale of stickers has been drastically reduced as the first sticker is free and an additional sticker is \$5.00. There are still no receipts offered by the attendant. Many ideas for improving the accuracy of transactions

at the Transfer Station were discussed.

Mr. Babb will request that the Finance Committee be placed on every Selectmen's agenda.

Members of the Finance Committee selected committees in which to 'specialize' so individual members are more knowledgeable when departments are discussed.

Fire Department:	Todd Abbott, Joe Simpson, Paul Verrell
Roads :	Dan Babb, Tina Cote, Brenda Edgerly
Town Government:	Brenda Edgerly, Janice Young
Transfer Station:	Todd Abbott, Paul Verrell

The next meeting is scheduled for a workshop on July 26th but may be changed to the 25th if the Selectmen are able to schedule to meet with the Finance Committee at their Board meeting.

The agenda for the next meeting was discussed.

Mr. Abbott made the motion to adjourn which was seconded by Mrs. Cote. Vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Carter, Secretary