

Spencer Finance Committee
May 23, 2017
7:00 PM
Minutes

Joint meeting with Board of Selectmen

Call meeting to order 7:05 p.m.

Members present: Mary Braney, Chair, Paul McLaughlin, Vice Chair, Nancy Herholz, Clerk, Tom Parker, Paul Bouvier, Bill Wall, Chris Bowen, Robbin Joyce & Chris Woodbury (newest invited member to be appointed)

No one noted as participating remotely in accordance with Regulation 940, CMR 29.10 of the Open Meeting Law

Meeting called to order for Selectmen, 7:25 p.m. - Quorum met

Selectmen present: John Stevens, Ralph Hicks & Gary Woodbury (7:25 p.m.)

No one noted as participating remotely in accordance with Regulation 940, CMR 29.10 of the Open Meeting Law

Adam Gaudette, Town Administrator; Bill Shemeth, Ex Officio

Minutes of Finance Committee meetings

Motion accept April 11, & May 4, 2017 : Bill Wall

Second: Tom Parker

Approved: Unanimous (8)

Town Administrator: Adam Gaudette stated since the Annual Town Meeting, there is no new busy or budget items to discuss.

Begin planning for FY 2019-FY2024 a) Identify issues that spurred this meeting.

Mary Braney opened discussion with ways to develop methods to clarify and resolve annual budget issues. Noting that every year the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee meet with department heads and listen to much needed requests for additional funding to, at the very least, restore services due to prior cuts. The majority of the requests, needs and funding are heard and have been

reheard year after year with little to no progress going forward. Most agreed that, albeit slow, progress is being made.

Members present from the BoS and FinCom shared their own views, cares, concerns and frustrations with regard to how and what could or would be the most productive method with putting the Town of Spencer back on track. Also noted was the need to restart the Financial Management Planning Committee; having been adopted August 9, 2010 for this very reason. The purpose of FMPC (aka "the Committee") was to prepare a comprehensive long-term financial & capital management plan, which would provide the town with information gathered in order to implement projects, along with the need to maintain town infrastructure over the next 10 to 20 years.

Discussion, comments, observations and questions

5) Any other

No further business

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy E. Herholz

Next joint meeting of the BoS & FinCom, June 20, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in McCourt Social Hall