

# DRAFT

FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, April 5, 2016  
Swampscott, MA 01907

Called to Order: A meeting of the Swampscott Finance Committee was held at the Swampscott Town Hall, 22 Monument Avenue, Swampscott, Mass at 7:00P.M.

Attendance: Chairman, Linso van der Burg, and Members, Joan Hilario, William Jones, Cinder McNerney, Jill Sullivan, and Polly Mary Titcomb., Selectman Dreeben.

The following were also in attendance: Resident MaryEllen Fletcher, Resident Gerry Perry and Chairman of the Board of Selectman Chairman, Naomi Dreeben and Danielle Strauss, Recreation Director.

Recreation Director, Danielle spoke on the following:

- Programs offered.
- Current Fees.
- Community Events.
- Work Hours.
- Life Guards.
- Hours Danielle works.
- Pay scale for employees.
- Amount of employees under her direction.
- Farmers Market income, expenses & Profit.
- The Farmers Market 2015-2016 season of income, expenses and profit were given to the Finance Committee.

Member Cinder McNerney inquired why the Lifeguards pay is not under the Recreation Budget Line Item, why is outside of the Recreation Department's budget.

Member Cinder McNerney asked for information on what the e Watch TV Programs is. Member William Jones asked how many employees does Ms., Strauss have in the summer.

Recreation Director Danielle Strauss will forward to Member Cinder McNerney per her request a copy of fee's for the programs that are offered.

Brief Open Discussion / RFP for Machon School:

Selectman Dreeben was asked questions on the RFP for the Machon School. Selectman Dreeben spoke to the School and that they have made it very clear that they do not need or want the former Machon School for any future projects and or schools in the future. have made it very clear that they do not need or want the former Machon School for any future projects and or schools in the future. Selectman Dreeben commented that the Town is not really losing any open space at this site since there was none there to begin with.

Member Joan Hilario commented that she feels the Board of Selectman should have supported open space on the RFP. Member Joan Hilario does not agree with the RFP process for the Machon Property

*Resident MaryEllen Fletcher asked if the Machon Property was a gift to the Town and what was intent of the property when /if given to the Town.*

*Resident Gerry Perry spoke on the following regarding the Machon Property. Community over developing within its three square miles borders, reducing the quality of life within the Town.*

- *Mr. Gerry Perry asked Member Linso van der Burg and Chairman of the Board of Selectman, Naomi Dreeben what is the total amount of litigation money spent on the Greenwood Avenue property to date.*
- *Cost benefit to the Town.*
- *Risk Assessment suggestion for the Finance Committee to do.*
- *Litigation cost becoming high for the Swampscott tax payers due to over-development.*
- *Condo development in Town has led to the community of Swampscott to have the 27<sup>th</sup> highest average single family tax bill in the Commonwealth.*
- *Suggestion would be that the Town of Swampscott raze to the ground Machon School and the Greenwood Avenue property for outdoor recreation.*

*Open Budget Discussion:*

*Member Linso van der Burg showed spread sheets from SPED Programs. School Department using \$900K from the circuit breaker funds for the School Budget.*

*Annual Town Meeting Warrant Report Draft:*

*The Board members briefly looked over the Warrant Report but will wait for a final draft.*

*Member Cinder McNerney voiced her concerns about not receiving material from Mr. Thomas Younger, Town Administrator in a timely manner and how difficult it is to get information when requested. Member Cinder McNerney feels like the Finance Committee asks for the same information year after year and never receives what they need from The Town and or the Accountants office.*

*Votes of the Board:*

*The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Member Jill Sullivan to approve meeting minutes from February 16, 2016 and March 29, 2016, seconded by Member William Jones.*

*Adjournment:*

*The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Member Galazka and Member Mary Polly Sitcom at 9:00P.M.*

*By Attest:*

*Maureen Shultz,  
Finance Secretary*