

*FINANCE COMMITTEE'S  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, November 1, 2016*

Attendance: *Chairman, Marzie Galazka , Vice Chair , Tim Dorsey, Members, Cinder McNerney, William Jones, Mary Ellen Fletcher, Mary Titcomb , Jill G. Sullivan, Gail Rosenberg and Joan Hilario.*

*Present at meeting:*

- *Dave Castellarin, Town Accountant,*
- *Resident David Van Dam*

*Review of Town Meeting Articles:*

*Article 1-Not recommended*

*Article 2 - Approved by member Jill Sullivan and Cinder McNerney/ Trash Collection.-*

*Article 3-Approved by member Cinder McNerney and Mary Polly.-Cinder McNerney will report at Town Meeting.*

*Article 4 –Indefinitely postponed –From the state’s office of Coastal Zone Management Grant along with Town matching funds. Grant has to be spent by the end of June.*

- *Member Mary Ellen Fletcher spoke on timing of the grant while other projects are in progress.*
- *Member Mary Ellen Fletcher spoke on the Town’s expenses for possible school construction project and the Stacy Brook Sewer Project.*
- *Member Mary Ellen Fletcher inquired if we have a design of a project how will it be implemented into the Town Capital plan / priority list. Phase 1 of the Coastal Zone Management Design report list numerous projects ranging from \$70, 000 to millions and was asked with the Capital projects request of Stacy Brook, water mains and a new school how would this fit in.*
- *Member Mary Ellen Fletcher does not agree with the 25% grant match.*
- *Member Mary Ellen Fletcher reiterated Mr. Gino Cresta’s comments from a previous meeting that he did not have the staff to do this work that is required of the grant.*
- *Member Jill Sullivan and Member Cinder McNerney spoke on many projects in town that have the in town service projects.*
- *Capital Improvement Committee voted no to supporting Article 4.*
- *Chairman, Marzie Galazka spoke on the entrances to the beaches / Municipal Design*

*Article 5- Approved by member Cinder McNerney and Member Mary Polly- Member Jill Sullivan will report at Town Meeting. Member Jill Sullivan will report at Town Meeting.*

*Article 6-Approved by member Jill Sullivan and Member Cinder McNerney-Member William Jones will report at Town Meeting.*

*Article 7-Not recommended / postponed.*

*Article 8-Approved by member Jill Sullivan and member Mary Polly.*

*Free Cash – Free cash was spoken of to be used –Member Cinder McNerney stated that she felt the Town’s tax payers would rather pay of the debt service with free cash then raise taxes.*

*Member Cinder McNerney inquired about certifying free cash prior to Town Meeting and asked how much free cash we have currently.*

*Member William Jones asked who set policy on free cash.*

*Member Mary Ellen Fletcher would like to see more transparency on financial meetings.*

*Member Cinder McNerney asked to see a debt plan if there is one.*

*Dave Castellarin, Town Accountant spoke on the following items:*

- *Aggressive approach to lower interest rates / borrowing money to fund capital items.*
- *Free cash helps build municipal credit scores.*
- *Approaching to get an AAA bond rating is goal.*
- *Mr. Castellarin suggested making room for all the projects.*

*Updates/ School Budget*

*Vice Chair, Tim Dorsey spoke on the School Committee budget / specific personnel cost / union contracts/ salary numbers need to be taken down, salaries cannot continue to go forward.*

*Member Gail Rosenberg spoke on lack of understanding and trust relating to the proposed school budget.*

*Member Jill Sullivan stated the Finance Committee needs to support saying no to raises concerning the School Department.*

*Discussion on the \$60K that was spent for the athletic budget due to the schools not collecting athletic fees from many of the students.*

*Re-Cap on School Committee meeting:*

*Member Gail Rosenberg questioned the School's business and finance expenses including \$30K in bank fees*

*Member Jill Sullivan suggested give the school a hard number to work with and plan for 2% increase-All members agree.*

*Member Mary Polly spoke on bargaining units, special education buildings.*

*Member Mary Ellen Fletcher commented she was disappointed with the School Departments presentation on the budget because it did not show an analysis of past spending. Past budget vs. spending with no history.*

*Board members will send questions on the proposed school budget to Chairman Marzie Galazka.*

*Votes of the Board:*

*The Board voted on a motion by member Jill Sullivan to approved amended meeting minutes from September 19, 2016 and August 19, 2016, seconded Member Gail Rosenberg.*

*Misc.:*

*The Board will meet again on November 14, 2016 prior to Town Meeting.*

*Adjournment:*

*The Board voted unanimously on a motion by Finance Member Mary Titcomb to adjourn meeting at 9:00PM seconded by Finance Member Cinder McNerney.*

*Attest:*

*Maureen Shultz  
Administrative Assistant*

