

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
APRIL 30, 2009**

Chris Smith, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Smith, Paul Wetzel, Gordon Allen, Kim Boas, Gary Benoit, Charlie Heath, Eric Ceretta and Chris Morris

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Buchele

SELECTBOARD: Jeff Cuiffreda, Dave Mathers and Denis Banister

OTHERS PRESENT: Pete Mahieu, Treasurer

The Local School was represented by Fred Venne, Charlene Nardi, Duncan Laird, Sara Christianson, Barbara Ripa and Cindy Landers to present their budget.

Notes: The school bus contract came in with good numbers. Discussion of increasing lunch prices. The school of choice money will be spent in the next 2 years, which will maintain programs. The school committee will be requesting a \$60,000.00 commitment from the town for the design of blueprints for expanding the school. M.J. Moran is looking into the boiler system (free of charge) and its costs over time. This will also give the town a plan if the system fails before replacement is possible. Teacher negotiations are coming up this year. There is a question of continuing to increase raises of 3% every year. Two teachers and one assistant may be laid off by June 15th.

MINUTES:

The minutes for April 16th were approved unanimously as amended to include Bob Buchele being absent. Motion GA/Second PW.

Minutes for April 23rd were approved as amended to strike the entire second sentence regarding the Library Board. Motion EC/Second GA. Passed unanimously.

RSFT: \$1,232.79 transferred for the Town Clerk Election Budget/Registrar to cover bills having gone up from the State and increase of elections.

Discussions: (1) Local School – a 3% increase over the 1.4 million requested would add \$43,859.00 to the budget. (2) Should increase unemployment to \$15,000.00. (3) Would like to move \$150,000 from free cash to stabilization fund with a question of \$17,000.00 from taxation as a one-time tax settlement. (4) Question of increasing town employee's 1, 2 or 3% cost of living – settled on 2%, which would add \$12,772.00 to the budget. This will be revisited.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS: May 7th @ 7:00 P.M. The SelectBoard may schedule an All Boards Meeting—date undecided.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M. Motion EC/Second GA. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda S. Rowley, Recording Secretary