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TOWN CLERK
ACTON

Finance Committee Meeting
Acton Town Hall, Room 204
June 10, 2014

Members present: Steve Noone (Chair), Mike Majors (Vice-Chair), Margaret Woolley Busse (Clerk), Pat Clifford, Mary Ann Ashton, Bob Evans, Bill Mullin, Doug Tindal

Members Absent: Herman Kabokoff

Chairman Noone called meeting to order at 7:35pm

- I. **Public Participation—None heard**
- II. **Update on Minuteman Regional High School (MRHS) Questions**
 - a. Nancy Banks, rep from MRHS, updated the committee on happenings at MRHS as well as presented answers to questions that were submitted to her by the Finance Committee. Currently, 10 member towns have passed the new MRHS regional agreement, 5 have passed over it, 1 rejected it, so this means that the region needs to go back and see if they can agree on something that will attract all member communities to vote in favor of it in order to get ratification.
 - b. The committee discussed what the mission of the school really is and if it's meeting its mission (Minuteman offers more AP classes and two foreign languages as well as a broad range of extra-curricular activities, *Margaret* asked "is this "mission creep?"), how the cost per pupil compares to other technical high schools (it's significantly more but *Mary Ann* commented that a much higher % of kids at Minuteman are in SPED vs. other technical high schools in the region), and what is the realistic future of the school is (can we effectively incentivize non-member communities to join?)
 - c. Nancy agreed to take these ideas, suggestions, and concerns back with her to her next MRHS meeting
- III. **Finance Committee Work Plan Fiscal Year 2015**
 - a. *Chairman Noone* presented updates on the work plan as well as asked for feedback, including the elements of the long-range plan developed several years back and then updated again. He also discussed the global cash flow initiative
 - b. *Margaret* then presented her plan for Community Outreach portion of the work plan and sought feedback.
- IV. **Discussion of Economic Development Committee (EDC) Activities**
 - a. *Doug Tindal*, presented on how the EDC will be revitalized, including a re-organization process initiated by the Board of Selectmen.
 - b. He also emphasized how much the town needs to separate Economic Development from Planning to assist in stimulating the right kind of development in town and to help the EDC, the Acton 2020 Committee, the DRB, and the Planning Board in their efforts.
- V. **Finance Committee Business**
 - a. No committee reports were made
 - b. **MOTION** was made and seconded to approve the minutes from 5/27/14 and 5/13/14 as drafted
 - c. **MOTION** was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:30pm

Documents Presented at Meeting

1. Answers to MRHS Fincom questions (from Nancy Banks)
2. Long-range Financial Forecast