



Town of Acton Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: February 28th, 2017
Acton Town Hall – Room 204 • 7:30 pm

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Members in attendance: Bob Evans, Mike Majors, Jason Cole, Margaret Busse (Chair), David Wellinghoff (Clerk), John Benson (Associate), Steve Noone, Roland Bourdon, Shuyu Lee, Doug Tindal (Vice-chair)

Members absent: Kristen Connell (Associate)

Other: Janet Adachi (BoS), Brian McMullen, Superintendent Brand, Clare Jeannotte, Amy Krishnamurthy (School Comm)

Chair Busse called meeting to order at 7:30

Public participation – None.

Public hearing for ABRSD Budget –Clare reviews the FY18 school budget binder. School looking to increase use of E&D to \$450,000, up from \$200,000. Town assessments based on 3-year rolling student enrollment (Acton 84.9% of enrollment) plus adjustment factors. Superintendent Brand and Clare both review highlights of budget Saturday. Question regarding FTE growth and whether the school has caught up to hiring needs. Marie comments 139 classrooms have declined to 121 due to declining enrollment. Still have needs in Math/Literacy support in earlier grades (MTSS) as well as English language. Motion to approve School Budget/Warrant article #5, all affirmative.

Discuss ALG/any revised budgets – Town looking to close \$150-200k delta of budget deficit using reserves or unused tax levy. Peter Ashton suggests using tax levy. 5 members in favor of using reserves, 3 in favor of using untaxed levy capacity, and 1 abstention.

CPC Presentation – Walter Foster and Bill Alesbury review CPC project deliberations. CP General Fund balance is \$1,196,189 which includes \$913,029 from the surcharge. Walter

reviews current projects totaling \$1,189,863 including \$450,000 of Open Spaces set aside. The 15 projects range from \$170,000 for Bruce Freeman Rail Trail and \$155,000 for a 2-unit bathroom at Nara. Motion to approve Warrant article #7/CPC Funding, all affirmative.

Motion to approve Feb 7 minutes, all affirmative.

Update on subcommittees – next week due to time constraints.

Review committee updates – next week due to time constraints.

Chair's minute – We may meet March 13th to hit warrant deadline.

Meeting adjourned at 10:03.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Wellinghoff
Finance Committee Clerk

Documents referenced:

ABRSD Budget Binder (<http://www.abschools.org/departments/finance>)

CPC presents a 1-page spreadsheet with high level details of projects