

LANESBOROUGH FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES, MARCH 30, 2015

Members present: Al Terranova, Chris Galib, Ron Tinkham, Stephen Wentworth, Greg Wolf, and Paul Sieloff (non-Fincom member)

Call to order: 6:00 pm

- Motion to approve Feb. 24, 2015 Minutes, motion (CG), 2d (RT), passed unanimously
- Brief discussion—it is Fincom's responsibility to develop and present the budget at town meeting (R. Riley, town moderator)
- Presentation: Tim Sorrell, Chairman of Recreation Committee— proposed budget= \$25,571, cost for lining the field will rise, hoping to get rid of porta-potties by installing bathrooms, will hopefully save money in long-run, considering \$5/child charge for all sports to go into revolving acct., there is \$5,000 in the revolving acct., there is supporting documentation/controls to when checks are written for Rec. expenses, accountability noticeably since last year under the old regime (we appreciate that)
- Presentation: George Himmel, Commander of American Legion Post—presents \$5,500 budget request, veteran's benefits increased to \$16,000 this year, activity of Food Bank/distribution described, was recommended we share expense of maintenance w/ other towns participating, Fincom recommends that \$5,500 stay in the budget
- Presentation: Lorna Gayle, Council on Aging, budget is \$18,556. Computer work has been done. Almost all van riders are on ADA cards (b/c they subsidize the program). BRTA owns the bus. It runs 5/wk, approx. 246 trips/mo. There are 2 drivers (part-time) and one sub. Seniors Tax Write-Off Program: There is a cap of \$15,000 as per Selectmen. We will continue to examine the merits of this program. Discussion re possible appearance of conflict of interest w/ COA board and acceptance to this program. \$750 tax write-off for participants.
- Presentation of LES budget: Paul Sieloff, Town Administrator: Budget =\$2,399,709. This is a \$182,823 decrease from 2015. We are considering: \$25,000 "contingency" fund in town budget monitored by Finance Comm.; \$60,000 "contingency" fund at LES monitored by School Comm.; \$40,000 "emergency" fund in town acct.
- Discussion re School Choice Program, (R. DeLego gave input), SPED cost is unknown.
- Reserve Fund transfers:
 1. Berkshire Regional Planning: \$2,000 to access technical assistance re gas pipeline, split betw. 12 towns. Motion (RT), 2d (CG), pass unan.
 2. Energy Comm.: \$302.12 for office supplies (to get original bldg. plans of LES), Motion (SW), 2d (CG), pass unan.
 3. Collector's Salary: \$250 for water district bills, Motion (SW), 2d (CG), passed 3-2 w/ GW and AT opposed
 4. Veteran's Benefits: \$4,000 for 2 additional recipients; Motion (RT), 2d (CG), pass unan.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 21, 2015, 6:30 pm

Motion to adjourn/ meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm