

**TOWN OF KINGSTON
MASSACHUSETTS**

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes
11 December 2008

Chairman Mathew Hamilton opened a meeting of the Finance Committee at 7:30 PM on 11 December 2008 at the Kingston Town Hall. Also present were Elaine Fiore, Lawrence Hunt, John LaBrache, Jason Lelio, Paul Ricci, and Claire Soares.

Mark Beaton, representing the Green Energy Committee, met with the Committee and—

- reported the is seeking a second grant of \$150,000 for installing a second wind turbine;
- requested Andrew Brydges to offer the Finance Committee an overview of a feasibility study for a wind project at the wastewater treatment plant.

Mr. Brydges reported the Green Energy Committee is soliciting input from the town for a complete change in the dollars from wholesale to retail and predicted it will change the economics. He—

- reported that moderate wind conditions in Kingston necessitate a conservative estimate of the numbers;
- estimated it would take two years before operation.

Mr. Beaton reported the operation would be an enterprise fund and that the Town is asking the General Court to add to the categories of uses for CPA money one for green promotion.

Mr. Beaton and Mr. Brydges left the meeting following the review.

The Chairman announced the next Finance Committee meeting will be held on 8 January 2009.

John LaBrache reviewed his financial summary with the Committee and raised the issues of budget reductions and override questions.

The Committee discussed articles requested for the town meeting warrant.

Upon motion made by Elaine Fiore and seconded by Jason Lelio, following discussion, it was unanimously—

VOTED: To create a revolving fund for the Harbormaster's department.

There was discussion of taking the taxpayers' fund from the Community Preservation Act.

Upon motion made by Jason Lelio and seconded by John LaBrache, following discussion, it was—

VOTED: To accept the Minutes of the meeting held on 6 November 2008 as submitted.

Lawrence Hunt abstained from voting on the motion; all other members present and voting supported it.

The Committee reviewed the Veterans' Agent's request for a transfer of \$30,000 from the Reserve Fund to pay for veterans' benefits.

Upon motion made by Elaine Fiore seconded by Paul Ricci, following discussion, it was unanimously —

VOTED: To transfer \$10,000 from the Reserve Fund to the Veterans' Agent's budget to pay for veterans' benefits.

Upon motion made by John LaBrache and seconded by Jason Lelio, following discussion, it was unanimously —

VOTED: To authorize payment of \$79.56 due to We Print Today for half the cost of copying FY10 budget requests.

John LaBrache reported he will bring to the next meeting actual figures for departmental expenditures which have been omitted from the budget sheets submitted to the Finance Committee.

Upon motion made by Paul Ricci and seconded by Jason Lelio, following discussion, it was —

VOTED: To recommend the annual town meeting adopt a balanced budget.

John LaBrache opposed the motion; all other members present and voting supported it.

Upon motion made by Jason Lelio and seconded by Paul Ricci, following discussion, it was —

VOTED: To recommend a personal services budget of \$93 for a total FY10 budget of \$93 for the Town Moderator.

Elaine Fiore and John LaBrache recused themselves from both the discussion and vote on the motion.

There was discussion of having the article pertaining to elected officials' salaries before the budget article.

Upon motion made by John LaBrache and seconded by Claire Soares, following discussion, it was unanimously —

VOTED: To recommend a personal services budget of \$5,047 and an expense budget of \$1,100 for a total FY10 budget of \$6,147 for the Finance Committee.

Upon motion made by John LaBrache and seconded by Elaine Fiore, following discussion, it was unanimously —

VOTED: To recommend appropriating \$100,000 for the FY10 Reserve Fund.

Upon motion made by John LaBrache and seconded by Jason Lelio, following discussion, it was unanimously —

VOTED: To recommend a personal services budget of \$375 for a total FY10 budget of \$375 for the Capital Planning Committee.

Upon motion made by John LaBrache and seconded by Mathew Hamilton, following discussion, it was unanimously —

VOTED: To recommend a personal services budget of \$4,241 and an expense budget of \$0.00 for a total FY10 budget of \$4,241 for the Wage and Personnel Board.

Upon motion made by Jason Lelio and seconded by Elaine Fiore, following discussion, it was—

VOTED: To recommend appropriating \$7,500, the minimum required by the Department of Revenue, for Tax Titles in FY10.

John LaBrache abstained from voting on the motion; all other members present and voting supported it.

The Committee noted that the Open Space Committee submitted no request or documents for its FY10 budget.

Upon motion made by Paul Ricci and seconded by Elaine Fiore, following discussion, it was—

VOTED: To recommend appropriating \$0.00 for the Open Space Committee's FY10 budget.

Mathew Hamilton and John LaBrache opposed the motion; all other members present and voting supported it.

Upon motion made by Paul Ricci and seconded by Elaine Fiore, following discussion, it was—

VOTED: To recommend a personal services budget of \$1,080 and an expense budget of \$0.00 for a total FY10 budget of \$1,080 for the Permanent Building Committee.

John LaBrache and Claire Soares opposed the motion; all other members present and voting supported it.

The Committee will request the Wage and Personnel Board to evaluate town employees' salaries.

Upon motion made by John LaBrache and seconded by Elaine Fiore, following discussion, it was unanimously.—

VOTED: To recommend a personal services budget of \$1,425 and an expense budget of. \$135 for a total FY10 budget of \$1,560 for the Rent Control Committee.

Upon motion made by John LaBrache and seconded by Elaine Fiore, following discussion, it was unanimously.—

VOTED: To recommend an expense budget of. \$900 for a total FY10 budget for the Green Energy Committee.

Upon motion made by Lawrence Hunt and seconded by Elaine Fiore, following discussion, it was unanimously.—

VOTED: To recommend a personal services budget of \$7,059 and an expense budget of. \$1,000 for a total FY10 budget of \$8,059 for the Sealer of Weights and Measures.

Upon motion made by Lawrence Hunt and seconded by Elaine Fiore, following discussion, it was—

VOTED: To recommend an expense budget of. \$900 for a total FY10 budget of \$900 for KEMA.

Jason Lelio and Paul Ricci opposed the motion; all other members present and voting supported it.

Upon motion made by Jason Lelio and seconded by Elaine Fiore, following discussion, it was unanimously—

VOTED: To recommend \$0.00 for the FY10 Harbormaster/Shellfish Constable/Waterfront Committee budget.

Upon motion made by Elaine Fiore and seconded by Jason Lelio, following discussion, it was unanimously—

VOTED: To recommend an expense budget of \$300 for a total FY10 budget for the Historical Commission.

Upon motion made by John LaBrache and seconded by Jason Lelio, following discussion, it was unanimously—

VOTED: To recommend an appropriation of \$250 for the FY10 services of the Plymouth County Cooperative Extension Service.

There being no further discussion or vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Miriam MacInnis
Secretary