

Minutes of the Longmeadow Finance Committee

Wednesday October 24, 2007

Fire Department Meeting Room:

Members Present	Y	N
Carla Gunn, Chairperson	x	
Mark Barowsky, Vice Chairperson	x	
James Law	x	
Jim Nittoli	x	
Peter Greenberg		x
Judd Peskin		x
Deborah Haas Wilson		x

Also present was The Audit Committee, Cathy Grady and Mr. Asselstine from the School Committee

Carla began the meeting summarizing the agenda. She then asked the Audit Committee to review their hand-out. Mr. Rosenberg from the audit committee briefly reviewed the committee's goals and objectives for the coming year. The committee would like to see the budget in more detail. A report that would not only give the budget and last year's actual but projections for anticipated expenses for current year. They also wanted the budget to be in greater detail with explanations of the changes from year to year. They wanted to see detailed financial statements and would be meeting with the Auditors on their next scheduled visit to discuss options. The Finance Committee asked the audit Committee to propose a plan and they would review it and recommend the changes to the Board of Selectmen. The two committees will meet again in a couple of weeks.

The next item of business was the Special Town Meeting Warrant. The committee reviewed the warrant along with Cathy Grady. All money articles were recommended with the exception of Article 7 and 11. These two articles would read to be recommended on the floor. The discussion basically centered on the fact that some of the members of the Finance Committee did not feel that the wording in both Articles sounded reasonable. They felt that the wording left doubt and raised questions as to the teacher's being paid their increases were contingent on the override and did not want the public to think that if the override did not pass the cuts would all be in the schools. Cathy told the committee that there would be a Plan B in case the override did not pass and it would be done immediately. Discussion went back and forth about the wording and the committee decided to wait to hear the motion on the floor before recommending.

Cathy also spoke about the articles for the Enterprise Funds and the CPA funds. She asked the committee for their recommendation even though there were no dollars attached to the article. Another item was the School Roof and the need to fix this right away. Mark asked what the status was on the suit against the roofing company and was told that the Selectmen were working on the case along with Town Council. Cathy and Jim Nitoli also stated that the roof needed to be replaced before winter and this was an emergency. Paul told the committee that this was a special circumstance and could be started immediately. He needed to get the DOR's approval and follow procurement procedures.

The next item was correspondence from two taxpayers and Carla reviewed the letters and asked if there were any comments. The next topic involved munis reports for the School and Town and the actuals for FY08. I will run the reports and bring to the next meeting.

The final item was approval of the September 16 & 24 minutes and the October 10 minutes. The committee voted to approve the minutes.

The committee voted to adjourn at 9:30 pm. The next scheduled meeting is November 7, 2007.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandra Choquette, Town Accountant