

CARVER FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2019

Present: Chairman Alan Germain, Beth Sulger, John Cotter, Bill Duggan and Assistant Town Administrator Elaine Weston. Absent: Kathryn Bandzul and George Callahan Also present: Kari Poudrier, Recording Secretary

Chairman Germain called the meeting to order at 7:02p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation, discussion and possible vote on the budget for Operations and Maintenance and Veterans.

Operations and Maintenance

Dave Siedentopf and John Woods came before the Committee. Mr. Siedentopf reviewed the budget. They are looking to increase their staff by 1 full time truck driver/laborer and one 1 part time clerical position. He explained the increases in costs of supplies, materials, licenses and repair of equipment. Ms. Weston explained that accounts have been changed to reflect specific expenses for vehicles, grounds & building for better tracking and transparency. Mr. Cotter made a motion to approve \$1,320,089 and be advanced to the Board of Selectmen, seconded by Ms. Sulger, voted and passed unanimously 4-0-0.

Veterans

Tabled until next meeting scheduled for March 5, 2019.

Discussion of stipends for elected/appointed boards and committees.

Mr. Germain discussed considering raising 2 of the boards annual stipends. He would like to see each member of the Board of Selectmen be increased from \$1,700 to \$2,000 and the Chair from \$2000 to \$3,000. He also would like the Conservation Commission Committee members to be \$800 and the Chair \$1,000 which is in line with the Planning Board as Conservation meets 2 times a month and does as many site visits. Mr. Cotter would like to see how the increases will be funded and made a motion to table the discussion to March 5, 2019, seconded by Ms. Sulger voted and passed unanimously 4-0-0.

Discussion of Carver's assessment to Old Colony Vocational School.

Mr. Germain reviewed the cost and number of children participating in the program. There is an increase in cost per student from \$12,900 to \$13,398. The number of students decreased from 93 to 91. Mr. Germain explained he will be attending the next scheduled meeting on 3/5 at 5:00pm and invited the other committee members to also attend. Mr. Cotter made a Motion to approve and be advanced to the Board of Selectmen Carver's portion seconded by Ms. Sulger, voted and passed unanimously 4-0-0.

Continued discussion of the Grant Program for non-profit organizations.

They are working on a grant project for the non-profit agencies that request money through petition articles on the annual town meeting warrant. They are looking to change that to an

application process with a budget of \$25,000 to grant to agencies. This will give more oversight on what the money is going to be used for and creates accountability. Mr. Cotter made a Motion to continue further discussion of the process until the scheduled meeting on March 5, 2019, seconded by Ms. Sulger, voted and passed unanimously 4-0-0.

Continued discussion of the Mass Stretch Code adoption for Carver

The Stretch Code several years ago had a large variance from State vs. stretch code requirements. This Committee has no new or additional information than from the last few meetings. They are still researching the pros and cons of this. Town Meeting will be voting on the adoption of this program. Our question is if the Finance Committee should get behind this plan or not. We are looking at it from the advantage of receiving grant money from the plan. The Committee would like to hear more feedback from the other towns and builders as to why they are for or against it for a better understanding. Mr. Germain feels the Stretch Code will ultimately be incorporated as the base energy code and when that happens the grant funding will disappear. Cotter made a Motion to approve recommending the current Mass Stretch Code to the Board of Selectmen for their consideration on advancing this to Town Meeting Warrant, seconded by Ms. Sulger, voted and passed 3-1-0.

Read and approve minutes of 2/7/2019 meeting.

Mr. Cotter made a Motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Ms. Sulger, voted and passed unanimously 4-0-0.

Public Comment: None

Future meeting date: March 5, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Cotter made a Motion to adjourn at 8:53 p.m. seconded by Mr. Duggan, voted and passed unanimously 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Kari Poudrier
Recording Secretary