

**APPROVED MINUTES
BOARD OF FINANCE REGULAR MEETING
March 25, 2008
Town Hall -Room 213**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Murry Stegelmann at 7:32PM. All members of the Board of Finance were present except for Peter Hovell. Mr. Hovell arrived later in the meeting at approximately 8:30 PM. Finance Director Kate Clarke Buch was present. Director of Parks & Recreation Sue Swiatek and Jane Brannigan were also present. Several members of the public were in attendance. The meeting was not recorded and was not broadcast on Channel 79.

BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Martha Banks began the review of the Parks and Recreation department. Sue Swiatek addressed the meeting. The personnel count was explained, as the one-half FTE budgeted for last year had been “given over” to the Dept of Public works.

At 8:02 PM, Sue Swiatek and Jane Brannigan left the meeting.

FLOOD MITIGATION STRATEGY

A discussion of the Board of Finance’s position on the flood mitigation strategy ensued. It was agreed that the Board of Finance cannot adopt the strategy per se, but that it can offer its general support. Before voting on specific language proposed by Tom Volpe, the Board heard from several members of the public concerning the flooding problem.

Laura Giobbi of Kelsey Street noted that the Planning and Zoning Board had expressed general approval of the strategy. Chris Rowland asked if the Board of Finance thought that Bob Steeger has enough resources to do maintenance on the drainage systems in town. Martha Banks answered that we have asked Bob Steeger this question and that the Board of Finance is willing to consider fund requests for maintenance.

Barry Grand of 1 Old Parish Road referenced draft EPC regulations, Section 5.1, which would allow the government to go onto private property to clean up obstructions. Flora Smith, Hamilton Lane, noted that the RTM’s public Works Committee is concerned over the maintenance of the drains. Ginny Hopkins, of Abbey Road and Intervale also expressed concern. Chris Noe, 242 Old Kings Highway South, asked about the process and timing of Board of Finance approvals. The Board noted that it meets monthly. Frank Giobbi asked whether the town could develop engineering plans concurrently. Cheryl Russell of Holly Lane stated she would like the timeline for the strategy moved forward.

Following discussion, the Board passed the following resolution upon motion by Tom Volpe, seconding and a vote of 7-0.

Page 2

Minutes of 3/25/08

“The Board of Selectmen has recommended what they believe is a comprehensive, multi-year Flood Mitigation Strategy. The Board of Selectmen has shared their strategy with the Board of Finance and the Board of Finance is encouraged and supportive of the Plan to provide long-term solutions to the flooding problem. However, the Board of Finance is mindful that it cannot commit to funding the specific projects until they are formally presented to the Board of Finance by the Board of Selectmen.”

The meeting then turned to a discussion of the Public Works Budget.

Tom Volpe made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded and approved 6-0. There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Smith Mao