

# Town of Lunenburg

Finance Committee:  
Mark Erickson, Chairman  
Brian Laffond, Vice-Chairman  
Martha McDonald, Secretary  
Barbara Reynolds  
John Male



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## Lunenburg Finance Committee Minutes September 8, 2011

*Mark Erickson*  
10/12/11

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LUNENBURG TOWN  
CLERK OFFICE

Location: Town Hall  
Present: Brian Laffond, Martha McDonald, Mark Erickson, John Male  
Absent: Barbara Reynolds  
Also Present: Kerry Speidel

NOTE: Lunenburg Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen attended presentation on Regional Dispatch Proposal starting at 6 pm in the Public Safety Building

- 1) Meeting called to order by the Chairman at 8:14 PM
- 2) Review regional dispatch proposal – BL noted we need additional information, particularly savings data; KS pointed out costs will increase due to new regulations and added call volume; KS noted other communities have difficulty hiring dispatchers so our dispatchers should not have trouble securing regional positions; our dispatch staff is unionized but it is a management decision whether to have dispatch on-site or not; BL had a few questions for KS about the language in the Inner-Municipal Agreement and he gave KS a marked up copy; on Thursday, October 6 we will relook at additional data on regional dispatch (look at current costs, Lunenburg adding a second dispatcher, regionalizing with two dispatchers and regionalizing with three dispatchers)
- 3) Communications – Association of Town Finance Committee Members annual meeting on October 15 in Franklin, MA
- 4) Minutes
  - Reviewed minutes from 8.11.11 meeting; BL moves we accept minutes, MM seconds, all approved
  - Reviewed minutes from 8.25.11 meeting; BL moves we accept minutes as submitted, MM seconds, all approved
- 5) Committee Reports
  - Regional Dispatch – remove from Committee Report list
  - Service Level Team – tentatively scheduled to meet next week but waiting to hear from Schools
  - School Regionalization – members appeared at last BOS meeting and stated Lunenburg agreed to withdraw regionalization proposal with North Middlesex School Department; current committee will be issuing a report for MSBA; discussed who empowers this committee and what is their charter; stated that this committee would possibly look at pulling Lunenburg students out of Monty Tech and consider joining Nashoba Valley Technical
  - Reconfiguration Committee – expanded to include two additional parents
  - Council on Aging – JM questioned whether he is still the FinCom representative
- 6) New Business
  - FY11 end of year close not yet fully completed but is near; KS recommended some changes to the process to slow things down in June to better be able to close more timely in the future
  - Hurricane Irene – spent \$12.6K for the storm, primarily for overtime for staff called in; Emergency Operation Center open from 6 am to 4:30 pm the day of the storm; 75% of expenditures will be reimbursed due to state of emergency; UNITIL had 10 crews in town; everything worked very smoothly
  - Ice Storm – 12.5% reimbursement is back in governor's budget (\$120K); needs to go through House and Senate
  - Mass Avenue Gas Station – abandoned property with taxes owed and mortgage including underground tanks containing some fuel; Town has authority to drain tanks; Clean Harbor scheduled tomorrow to pump and dispose of gas in tanks at a cost of \$5K; KS will ask to pay for this out of the reserve

- Police Injured-On-Duty Insurance – cost has increased from \$25K to \$75K annually due to our losses; few companies carry this line of insurance coverage
  - DPW Project – load-bearing structure not identified on plan and requires change order of \$26K to add some load-bearing walls; money will come out of established project contingency funds; expect a reduction in the cost of the doors that are currently out for rebid
  - Street Paving – will finish both ends of Lancaster Avenue and New West Townsend Road
  - JM requested updated projection on debt service levels
  - Summer Street Project – Senator Flanagan committed to make amendment to have 20% design costs in grant plan
- 7) Next meeting – September 22 with Pavement Management Plan presented and draft of annual calendar
- 8) Adjournment – JM made motion to adjourn at 9:35 pm, BL seconded, all approved

Minutes respectfully submitted by Martha McDonald

