

Town of Lunenburg

Finance Committee:
Mark Erickson, Chairman
Brian Laffond, Vice-Chairman
Terri Burchfield, Secretary
Jason Smith
John Male
Scott Gile
Steven Raboin



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Mark Erickson
2/7/13

Lunenburg Finance Committee Minutes 1/10/2013

Location: Town Hall
Present: M. Erickson, B. Laffond, J. Male, S. Gile, J. Smith, S. Raboin, T. Burchfield
Also Present: K. Speidel, K. Brochu, S. McCaie, D. Noble, M. Moore

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.
2. Meet and greet
The Treasurer/Collector, Eagle House Director, and Library Director were present for an informal discussion of departmental operations and needs. This was scheduled to allow service level discussions and provide the newer committee members the opportunity to hear from the department heads before the budget season begins and funding is discussed. The department heads presented information regarding current operational status, challenges, initiatives, and benchmarks against which they measured their department's activities.
3. Communications
 - No public comment.
 - The Annual Town Report submissions are due February 25th. We discussed whether FinCom would be submitting anything. Mark will draft an outline and run it by the Committee.
 - The cost to Lunenburg for the state mosquito project was \$58,003.
 - The current editions of the Municipal Financial Data booklet, Municipal Advocate, and the January Beacon were circulated.
4. Minutes
SG made a motion to accept the minutes of 12/13/2012. BL seconded, motion approved 7-0.
5. Committee Updates
SR reported that the Capital Planning Committee has been meeting weekly and has met with all department heads at least once, some twice. One item under discussion is a police vehicle. There will be an opportunity to compare the sedan vs. utility vehicle at the Safety Building on Wednesday morning.
ME reported on the progress of the School Building Committee and the 3 design firms that will be interviewed based on review of the building proposals.
6. Town Manager Updates
Karen Brochu circulated copies of the Tax Rate Recap and Budget Report for review. The committee is asked to forward any questions to Mark for inclusion as future agenda items.
Kerry Speidel noted some issues around liability insurance and veterans retirement. Legal expenses are running high due to active cases. The town lost appeal on 40B housing at Hollis Rd. This Zoning Board issue has been in court since 2009. The development of 140 single family units will move forward.
Ms Speidel is expecting level state funding to towns. She will be presenting the 5 year fiscal forecast at the Select Board meeting on 1/15, and health insurance on 1/22.
7. Budget Opportunities
SR will invite someone to speak about energy audits.
8. Next Meetings
1/24 meeting at the Ritter building with land use departments
2/14 meeting was rescheduled to 2/7
2/28 meeting will be first look at the new budget.
9. BL motioned to adjourn at 9:00. SR seconded, approved 7-0.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Terri Burchfield.