Town of Ashby Massachusetts

Finance Committee Meeting

November 6, 2012

Regular meeting called to order: 7:30 pm by Kevin Stetson, Chair

Present: Kevin Stetson, Kathy Panagiotes, Joe Armstrong-Champ

Guests: Joe Mazzola, (Peter McMurray, Mike Bussell: Info Session for FinCom Members)

Minutes: October 9 reviewed. Accepted with correction: Under New Business: Mr Scheid...the last bullet of #1 should read, "FinCom will review/discuss all of #1 at a later meeting".

New Business:

1. RFT 13-03 APPROVED

Mr. Mazzola:

- Request is \$10,000.00
- 3 qualified vets in town
- initial budget item was insufficient
- \$1600-1800 is spent by the town per month
- By law, the VA benefits are \$1600.00
- monies are reimbursed at 75% and are deposited into the general fund

2. RFT 13-02

- Town well: DEP is involved
- Water was tested
- We have about \$10,000.00 invested in updating this well
- DEP engineers give options:
 - o Shut the well down
 - Add a rubber tube and dig it deeper; 100-150 feet and block the higher water entrance
 - o Add filtration system
 - o Dig a new well
 - o Look for a new water source (could the new mini mall be that)
 - o On 11/5 DEP met with Mr. Bussell: the well has iron and manganese at higher than recommended levels, but DEP cannot rule at this time
 - o DEP mandate (Office of Rules and Standards), gave extra time, 45 more days, to evaluate if the levels will be okay
 - o Equipment must be above grade

- o Prevent a freeze up
- o Upgrade electrical
- o Needs a new pressure tank
- o Testing
- Legion, Grange, and Congregational Church do not contribute
 - o Testing is about \$30/month; electricity is about \$9/month
- 3. Discussion about roof and windows of AES
 - 42% is Ashby's portion
 - stabilization fund = 697,711.50
 - free cash = 503,987 (98,000 from ice storm)
 - assessments/abatement = 140,000 (80,000 left)
 - building has 60's wiring
 - approx. 1.0 million dollars to remove the asbestos
 - approx. \$100.000 to demolish the part of the school that is in question.
- 4. Computer System
 - fire station system needs repair

Other items of interest:

- Vote recount expenses approx. \$2500.00
- BOS is reviewing candidates for the TA position

Next Meeting: November 20, 7:30 pm

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted, Kathleen Panagiotes