

MILFORD FINANCE COMMITTEE
MARCH 9, 2011

Present: Jerry Hiatt (Chair), Aldo Cecchi, Phil Ciaramicoli (7:10), Al Correia, Bob DeVita (7:30), Chuck Miklosovich, Dave Morganelli (7:25), Marc Schaen, Mike Schiavi (7:25), John Tennaro and Vincenzo Valastro.

Members not present: John Kelley and Joyce Lavigne

Also present: Louis Celozzi, Town Administrator, Bill Buckley, Selectman, John Pyne, Town Accountant and Paul Abbondanza, Financial Analyst.

Media: Milford Daily News

Meeting called to order at 7:05 P.M.

Minutes for 2-9-11 were tabled.

FY11 Budget: Fire Budget - Aldo Cecchi reported that the Fire Department budget is running on schedule, 80.78 percent of the budget has been spent. Two firefighters have resigned leaving money left in the salary account until these firefighters are replaced in April or May. Overtime line item is \$50,000 to \$70,000 short.

FY11 Budget: Police Budget – Aldo Cecchi reported that some line items will be exhausted because of the FY11 budget dictating the FY12 budget. Both Police and Fire fuel line items will be higher due to the rise in gas prices. Mr. Cecchi reported that there is going to be a shortfall in the police fuel account this year of \$6000 due to the cost of gasoline. Mr. Cecchi reported that the overtime budget amount in both the Police and the Fire Budgets will be exceeded in the FY11 budgets.

FY11 Highway Department Budget: Al Correia reported that Scott Crisafulli, Highway Surveyor, can make the budget work for this year with what they have except for the snow budget which is \$369,000 in the red.

Louis Celozzi, Town Administrator reported that the Veteran's Department \$25,000 budget will need more money.

Phil Ciaramicoli requested a copy of the letter that went out to all department heads.

FY12 Budget Discussions: Louis Celozzi, Town Administrator, reported that most union contracts are settled.

Vinny Valastro reported that the Hotel Tax letter does not mention that the increase from 4 percent to 6 percent be used to offset the tax rate in an Article that will be written for Town Meeting.

Al Correia reported that the Highway Department's FY12 budget looks good. \$1 million for roads; \$50,000 for maintenance equipment which will cover cost of a new pickup truck; \$20,000 for sidewalk repair (cost to repair Purchase Street sidewalks will be \$1 million). Budget is fine for next year except for the sidewalk repairs.

Old Business: Marc Schaen reported that he suggested an Article for Town Meeting from the Finance Committee to change the number of members because the subcommittee chairperson does most of the work. He believes the number should be eleven (11) and decided by the Selectmen, Phil Ciaramicoli and Marc Schaen.

Phil Ciaramicoli reported that Marc Schaen and he had discussed that the Selectmen make the appointments for vacancies during the term. The subcommittee's recommendation is eleven.

Dave Morganelli moved that the Finance Committee support a position for having eleven members, and that any appointments made for new members shall be reviewed by the Finance Committee and seek their recommendations, seconded by Marc Schaen, 6 in favor, 4 opposed.

Discussion: Budget meetings – Department heads will be asked to attend these meetings.

Marc Schaen moved to adjourn, seconded by Aldo Cecchi, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Diana Hearn

Documents referenced at meeting:

1. Hotel Occupancy Tax Letter dated 3/8/11 from FinCom to Selectmen
2. Letter to Department Heads regarding FY12 Budget Guidelines
3. List of towns/cities for comparison regarding number of Finance Committee members