

Board of Finance
Minutes Regular Monthly Meeting
October 15, 2019

Present: Ed Epstein, Fran Goodsell, Mark McWhinney, Nancy O'Dea-Wyrick, Mark Sebetic.

Public and Invited Guests: Bruce Adams, Debbie Devaux, Barbara Herbst, Martin Lindenmayer.

Chairman Mark Sebetic called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda: Ms. O'Dea-Wyrick made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Mr. Epstein seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Board clerk Lesly Ferris noted she had extended an invitation to attend the meeting to the candidates for First Selectman and the candidate for the Board of Finance. Ms. Ferris noted Ed Matson had emailed her today to say he plans to attend the meeting after work.

Minutes: Sept. 17, 2019: Mr. McWhinney made a motion to approve the minutes of the Sept. 17, 2019 monthly meeting as presented. Ms. O'Dea-Wyrick seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Correspondence: There was no correspondence.

Reports: Tax Collector: Tax Collector Debbie Devaux said she does not have a written report, saying "things are going along." She noted next Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. is the last tax sale.

Board of Education: Board of Education chairman Marty Lindenmayer said he misspoke last meeting about the tuition rate at Kent Center School. It is \$4,500. Mr. Lindenmayer said teacher negotiations are finishing up and need to be complete and signed by October 22. He will let the board know the details when negotiations are done.

Board of Selectmen: Mr. Adams provided a written report:

Streetscape

A second Committee has been appointed by the BOS. They have met many times and presented a proposal to the BOS on October 1. BOS met to propose a town meeting to adjourn to a referendum. However, Town Atty. does not like the proposed ballot. Awaiting word on this from bond counsel, town atty. and other 2 Selectmen.

There is growing concern over the potential loss of the \$500K grant which expires in December. Barbara Herbst has applied for an extension and I have spoken with the decision maker. Fingers XXXX.

I have applied for an additional grant through our COG. No decisions until spring. Optimistic.

Kenico Road

The road is paved and looks good. But with that comes speeding!!

Slopes still need work, which is half done. Some shoulder work has been completed.

Carter Road Bridge

Completed within budget and within time. Great contractor. This bridge is just up the road from

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BY J. Sebetic
TOWN CLERK

the larger project.

Tribal Recognition - old news

This issue just won't go away. Word is that the SIT plans to submit a new petition to the BIA. I have already met with people to plan a strategy. I have also enlisted many pledges of support from fellow town leaders.

Rep. Maria Horn and Congresswoman Jahana Hayes are on board.

This will likely cost some money, thus the early heads up.

KC Ballfields

For years Kent School has incorporated maintenance of these fields into their budget. They will no longer be doing this and the total cost will be about \$3500 annually. Needs to be added to FY20-21 budget. This should be a joint effort of the Town, P&R and KCS.

KVHE Tax Abatement

We recently signed off on a Tax Abatement program for Templeton Farm (KVHE). Since the end of the 40 year State program, their taxes have increased dramatically. We met and discussed mutual concerns and eventually agreed on a fair program under which KVHE's taxes remain static over 10 years and their liability increases 10% per year through FY27-28. This applies to the 24 residential units only.

Board members and the first selectmen engaged in further discussion about the proposed Streetscape project, including the question of asphalt or concrete construction. Mr. Sebetic said he can't think of a small Town with asphalt sidewalks. Mr. Adams said he believes that those who want the project done, including himself, want concrete. Mr. Sebetic asked the board if it wishes to send the board's opinion about the Streetscape Project to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Sebetic said he feels the Town is in a financial position to afford concrete sidewalks and would not have to raise taxes, adding he feels this seems like the ideal time to do a big project. Mr. McWhinney and Ms. O'Dea-Wyrick voiced support for concrete sidewalks and doing the project all at once. Mr. McWhinney made a motion to send a letter to the Board of Selectmen stating that the Board of Finance supports completing the proposed Streetscape project in one phase with concrete sidewalks and granite curbing as a prudent investment in infrastructure. Mr. Epstein seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer: Treasurer Barbara Herbst presented a Treasurer Report for BoF meeting 10.15.19 (attached).

New Business: Streetscape Subcommittee 2 - update: There was no further discussion.

Fiscal Year 2018-19 Audit: Mrs. Herbst said there are a couple of new pronouncements in the audit report regarding record keeping.

Annual Town Report 2018-19: Ms. Ferris reported requests for reports have gone out and reports are coming in.

Old Business: There was no old business discussed.

Comments from Public and Invited Guests: There were no comments.

Ms. O'Dea-Wyrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Lesly Ferris
Board Clerk

Minutes are not considered final until approved. Refer to the minutes of the ensuing meeting for any changes/corrections.

Treasurer Report for BoF meeting 10.15.19

1. Treasurer Office Activities September:

- a. Completed **Audit Field Work**, draft Financial Statements are expected in October. (Rec'd 10.15.19)
- b. Working on extension request for Streetscape Grant of \$500,000 (Submitted 10.9.19)
- c. Issued **68 accounts payable** checks.
- d. Issued **101 payroll and payroll liability** checks.
- e. Recorded **60 transactions initiated by BoE.**
- f. Recorded **12 deposits** totaling **\$282,774**

2. Actual vs Budget

Revenue

Revenue is always strong in the first quarter due to tax collections and Transfer Station Permit fees. \$6,215,256 of tax revenue and \$86,510 in Transfer Station Permit fees were received as of 9/30/2019

KCS Tuition in the amount of \$6,750 has been received for three out of town students.

Expense

Expenses are on track with budgeted amounts.

The first quarter of each fiscal year is when most of the Associations request their annual grants. \$285,000 has been released which represents 93.9% of budgeted grants.

The KCS Ballfield Maintenance (#046-000) is expected to exceed the budgeted appropriation by approximately \$2,500 for this FY. This is principally due to the unbudgeted expense of assuming control of the Organic Lawn Care Program administered by New England Turf. Previously this was a responsibility of KCS.

On the back is a summary actual vs budget through 9.30.19

Treasurer Report for BoF meeting 10.15.19

	<u>Jul - Sep 19</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Income	6,884,895	12,870,032	(5,985,137)	53.5%
Expense				
A · General Government	580,929	1,340,391	(759,462)	43.34%
B · Public Safety	21,257	262,395	(241,138)	8.1%
C · Public Works	326,345	1,787,432	(1,461,087)	18.26%
D · Health and Welfare	36,072	118,709	(82,637)	30.39%
E · Recreation	55,048	192,156	(137,108)	28.65%
F · Sanitation	23,222	136,695	(113,473)	16.99%
G · Board of Education	1,455,061	7,207,438	(5,752,377)	20.19%
H · Debt Service	8,281	450,469	(442,188)	1.84%
I · Transfer to Capital	831,847	831,847	-	100.0%
J · Transfer to Dog Fund	7,500	7,500	-	100.0%
K · Current Year Capital Projects	<u>535,000</u>	<u>535,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
Total Expense	3,880,563	12,870,032	(8,989,469)	30.15%