**Finance Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Town Hall ~ February 8, 2018**

**Sturbridge, MA**

**Call to Order:**

The chair called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. The following committee members were present: Kathy Neal (KN), Michael Serio (MS), Joni Light (JL), Jared Burns (JB), James Waddick (JW), Mike Hager (MH), Karen Davis (KD) and Bruce Boyson (BB) (7:02pm).

Absent: Larry Morrison (LM)

Guest: Leon Gaumond (LG)

**Review of Article 48 – Library HVAC Improvements (formerly Article 49)**

Some of the committee members had questions on the HVAC study that was funded at the previous Town Meeting. LG explained that the study had been completed with a recommendation to either replace the system in full for approximately $300,000.00, or to upgrade the current system for approximately $119,000.00. LG had discussions with the facilities manager and the current maintenance vendor of the HVAC system, and it was decided that certain improvements could be done to extend the usefulness of the system to plan for the cost. Improvements would be less costly, approximately $10,000.00 as requested in this article. This “band-aid” would provide for an additional two to three years before replacement would be essential.

MH moved the motion to approve Article 48 as written; MS seconds. Motion accepted 8-0-0.

**Review of Article 50 – Logging Violations (formerly Article 51)**

LG explained that this article is merely adding clauses to the existing logging by-laws. He made it clear that the Board of Selectman (BOS) does not have the authority to issue logging permits. However, they do have the authority to place restrictions and conditions, such as reasonable safety protections.

JW moved the motion to approve Article 50 as written; JL seconds. Motion accepted 8-0-0.

**Review of Article 51 – Non-Criminal Disposition (formerly Article 52)**

LG explained that this article is a companion article to Article 50 and establishes fines for violations to the logging by-law.

JB moved the motion to approve Article 51 as written; JL seconds. Motion accepted 8-0-0.

**Review of Article 52 – False Alarms**

LG will ask the BOS to pass over this article as it is not critical. The request will be made at the Special Town Meeting and likely be brought forward at the Annual Town Meeting.

MH moved the motion to take no action on Article 52; KD seconds. Motion accepted 8-0-0.

**Review of Article 61 – Package Store License**

There was discussion around the numbers of liquor licenses, as well as differences in full licenses v. beer and wine, and the process for requesting additional licenses.

JL moved the motion to approve Article 61 as written; JB seconds. Motion accepted 8-0-0.

**Review of Article 62 – Petitioned Article**

LG feels that the article lacks substance. There was discussion around the potential for a substitute motion to be made at Town Meeting to specify in more detail the intent of the article. LG felt it was difficult by the way it was written as not much was specified.

BB moved the motion to take no action on Article 62; KD seconds. Motion accepted 8-0-0.

**Review of Meeting Minutes**

MS moved the motion to accept the minutes of January 30, 2018 as written; MH seconds. Motion accepted 8-0-0.

**New Business**

KN confirmed the Burgess School Budget will be voted by the school committee on March 1, 2018.

**No Old Business/No Public Access**

JB moved the motion to adjourn at 8:45pm; KD seconds. Meeting adjourned.

/jml