

# AMHERST FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting of April 5, 2007

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the First Floor Meeting Room of Town Hall.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Marilyn Blaustein, Paul Bobrowski, Alice Carlozzi (Chair), Kay Moran, Douglas Slaughter and Andrew Steinberg.

## STAFF AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

John Musante, Finance Director/Treasurer; Roy Rosenblatt, Community Services Director; Paulette Brooks and Mary Jane Laus, Community Development Committee; Bonnie Isman, Library Director.

## AGENDA

1. Minutes of March 22, 2007 meeting.
2. Community Preservation Act Committee
3. Other Special Articles (Mooring, Rosenblatt, Ziomek)
4. Human Services Funding Committee
5. Library budget recommendations
6. Member reports
7. Miscellaneous

## COMMITTEE ACTIONS AND DISCUSSION

**1. VOTED 6-0, 1 absent to approve with minor amendments minutes of the March 22, 2007, meeting.**

**2. Community Preservation Act Committee.** VOTED 6-0, 1 absent, to recommend approval of \$555,998 for the five Community Preservation Act articles as appropriate uses of CPAC funds.

**3. Other special articles.** VOTED 6-0, 1 absent, to recommend approval of the Olympia Drive article. Mr. Rosenblatt described the ongoing problem of getting an affordable housing project on Olympia Drive underway. The warrant article for this Annual Town Meeting repeats an earlier request for a special act of the state legislature intended to correct a mistake dating back to 1987 in designating land for housing and land for conservation purposes. Since the legislature failed to act on the previous request, a new one is necessary. Mr. Mooring and Mr. Ziomek will attend a future meeting.

**4. Human Services Funding Committee.** This is now the Community Development Committee. They recommend payment of \$42,500 divided among five agencies serving Amherst residents. This is \$17,500 above the amount in the Town Manger's original budget proposal.

**5. Library budget recommendations.** The Library Services budget assumes use without appropriation of \$19,000 in new fines for late return of audio-visual material. There is a total budget gap of about \$40,000 that puts continuation of the ESL program in jeopardy. The fine money goes by law to the General Fund; it is not available for use unless it is appropriated.

**6. Member reports.** None

**7. Miscellaneous.** The Committee agreed to meet at 6:00 p.m. April 10, 2007.

Voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by Alice Carlozzi, Acting Clerk

Approved 8/29/2007