

**Topsfield Finance Committee
Minutes to the Meetings
March 21, 2011**

I. **Call to Order:** Mark Lyons, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Heidi Bond, Paul Dierze, Karen Dow, Kathy Hartmann, and Holger Luther present. Town Administrator Virginia Wilder, Selectman Laura Powers, School Committee member Jeanine Cunniff, and Masconomet School Committee member Ken Vogel were also present. In addition, Joe Geller, Chair of the Open Space Committee, Dana Mastroianni, Library Director, and Robert Winship, Chair of the Planning Board were also in attendance. Chairman of the Board of Selectman, Richard Gandt, and Town Moderator John Kinhan joined the meeting at 7:05 pm.

II. **Videotaping Notification:** Chairman Lyons advised all present that the meeting was being videotaped.

III. **Minutes:** A motion was made by Holger Luther to approve the 03/14/11 minutes as written, seconded by Karen Dow, voted in favor 6-0.

IV. **Town Hall Boiler:** Chairman Geller and Chairman Winship presented the Committee with information regarding the need to replace the Town Hall boiler. They highlighted the benefits of replacing the oil boiler with a natural gas boiler.

V. **Budget Discussion:** The Committee reviewed a summary of Budget updates since the last Model Version. Some of the assumptions contained in the Model were also reviewed and discussed. Based upon these updated, the Committee then discussed the projected Budget Deficit.

VI. **Reconsideration of Specific Department Budgets:** The Committee viewed an updated Appendix A and discussed the changes made. In a series of motions, the Finance Committee voted on specific department budgets. All motions supersede any previous motions

A motion was made by Holger Luther to revise the Fire Department budget as listed below:

1. Fire Department
 - a. Salary \$101,316
 - b. Wages \$401,785
 - c. Other \$86,866

The motion was seconded by Kathy Hartmann. After discussion, Holger Luther rescinded his motion.

A motion was made by Heidi Bond to revise the Veterans' Benefits budget as listed below:

2. Veterans' Benefits
 - c. Other \$6,350

The motion was seconded by Holger Luther, voted in favor 6-0.

A motion was made by Holger Luther to revise the Fire Department budget as listed below:

1. Fire Department

a.	Salary	\$101,316
b.	Wages	\$401,785
c.	Other	\$85,366

The motion was seconded by Kathy Hartmann and voted in favor 5-1.

VII. **Upcoming Meeting Schedule:** The next meeting of the Finance Committee will occur on March 31, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Proctor School Teacher's Lounge.

VIII. **Adjourn:** A motion was made by Holger Luther to adjourn at 8:30 p.m., seconded by Karen Dow, voted in favor 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Clay