

Meeting Minutes

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Finance Committee Minutes

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A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Tuesday, September 27, 2005 at 12:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room at Cape Elizabeth Town Hall.

Committee members present: Kathy Ray (Chair), Elaine Moloney, and Rebecca Millett

Committee members unable to attend: none

Others Present: Alan Hawkins, Pauline Aportria, Connie Goldman, and Ernie MacVane

The committee signed warrants and reviewed appropriations reports.

Connie briefed us on the current status of the EPS funding situation in Augusta. She indicated that the targeted funds model is problematic. There will also be forthcoming a written piece on the use of targeted funds for technology and any monies not used will be forfeited.

Connie commented that Maine's local assessment system is the most cumbersome in the country, and she is looking to promote streamlining it.

Rebecca talked with Connie about the ramp up versus EPS model and she and Connie are going to get together to go over the details. Connie was interested and wanted to take the information back to Augusta. As Rebecca indicated, we need clarification, preferably in writing, as to how much of the funds are meant for tax relief and how much are meant for schools.

Connie encouraged looking into regionalization, especially on transportation for expense savings.

Rebecca asked Connie about local control. Do we have it or don't we? Connie indicated that although Augusta has a lot of rules, they don't really have the resources to enforce them.

Connie spoke about Sue Gendron going to the legislature to enquire about energy relief, which may not need to go through the budget process.

Ernie reviewed the energy management projects that have been completed, are in progress and yet to be done. This list was

generated from an evaluation of the mechanical systems done by Herriman Associates in 1999. The five top energy savers have been the variable speed drives installed in the boiler room at the high school, the parking lot lights being put on the computerized energy management system, the energy management burner control system installed in all schools, the domestic hot water boiler installed for summer use, and the replacement of the locker room rooftop air exchanger.

The Ed Tech that had been requested was being withdrawn as some rearranging of student loads had been done.

Pauline and Ernie put together, per the request of the committee, a Cape Elizabeth School Department energy cost summary. There was some discussion as to whether to include the pool energy costs. Pauline will re-calculate and get a new one distributed.

A new report showing monthly energy usage vs. budget will be put together to keep us abreast of where things stand.

Kathy suggested that the former food service task force be incorporated into the finance committee and a monthly reporting continue to be made on the status of the overdue student accounts. Elaine and Rebecca agreed to this proposal, so it will be brought up at the next business meeting for a vote.

There will be a town council meeting on October 20th with the auditors at 7:30 pm.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on October 25, 2005 at 12:30 in the superintendent's office.

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