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## **Finance Committee Minutes**

### Finance Committee Minutes

September 28, 2006

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Thursday, September 28, 2006 at 12:00 p.m. in the Superintendent's Office at the Cape Elizabeth Town Hall.

Committee members present: Rebecca Millett (Chair), Kathy Ray, Linda Winkler

Others Present: Alan Hawkins, Pauline Aportria, Sue King, Ernie McVane, Phil Coupe of Smart Energy

The committee signed warrants.

Phil Coupe of Smart Energy reported to the committee his efforts to date to secure funding for alternative energy for the district. To date, he has had little success in obtaining funding from foundations. He has learned that Smart Energy needs to reflect more experience working with renewable energy systems, hence he has started Energyworks, LLC a for profit commercial and residential energy systems installation company. Mr. Coupe has written a grant request for \$4,650 from the Maine Community Foundation to purchase a Blue Link Solar device for the Middle and High Schools. The device is a portable energy source. Upon the recommendation of Ernie McVane, the finance committee will recommend to the board that we pursue alternative energy systems in conjunction with the town as part of a community-wide committee involving citizens.

In addition to solar and wind energy, Ernie suggests that the town and school's alternative energy analysis include natural gas and thermal energy. He believes that Biomass will not work in Cape Elizabeth because of the pollution it produces.

The monthly energy report was reviewed. Because the High School temperature control system is close to fully operational, the district has seen \$5,995 in electrical energy savings compared to last year.

There was no food service report to review this month as September has not yet closed.

The committee reviewed with Sue King high school lunch prices. Items that increased in price include coffee, pop tarts, donuts, quesadilla, chicken nuggets (larger size), and taquitos. Cold and hot sandwiches, soups, salads, daily specials, and orange juice prices remained the same.

An average of 16 to 20 breakfasts currently is being served in the Middle School.

The auditors have released their annual report. One management issue that they cited is the requirement that federally funded staff must sign a form twice a year to confirm that they are funded fully by federal monies.

The committee discussed the 07-08 budget process. Alan is beginning the process with district leadership discussions. He and Pauline will be more fully incorporating zero-based budgeting in the process and will prepare documents for use that outline the tools, schedule and objectives. Alan and Pauline also are drafting a synopsis of the current state of the schools including assessment results, the 5 year plan outreach efforts, and potential financial scenarios for 07-08

The next meeting is set for October 24 at 12:30 in the Superintendent's Office.

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