

MEETING MINUTES
Town of Heath
Finance Committee
December 10, 2019

Called to order at 6:00pm by Chair Ned Wolf with Ken Gilbert, Kathy and Jan Carr present. Gary Singley visiting.

Fin Com joined BOS at 6:10. Alice joined FinCom at BOS Meeting.

The fincom will seek a 5% – 10% overall budget reduction.

Brian mentioned there would be an additional cost of \$3,000 for website management., we are switching to Montague Web Works. This also includes a small amount to pay Erich.

Highway Department

Truck#1 – full replacement

Put \$25,000 into it last year-had a clutch put in. Will need \$20,000 this upcoming year. By putting \$20,000-\$25,00 in it per year, it should last four to five years. The frame is separating. A new one is about \$200,000.

Grader – has 8,000 hours (bought it with 6,000 hours). We have spent \$36,000 for a new transmission and \$16,000 - \$18,000 to replace pin. It had five to six years of use, two years ago. It is too big a machine for our needs. Is a stainless steel body worth it? Treated salt - \$77.10 per ton; untreated - \$60's per ton; sand is \$20.00 per ton.

The salt shed is in dire straits, its trusses broken. Brian will come up with a repair plan. Tear down and replace with Quonset hut. Chapter 90 money can be used.

West Branch with chapter 90, balance on culvert pipe by McCutchen's – Chapter 90 money used this year. \$35,000 grant for culvert study.

The STRAP grant has been denied twice. Will use Chapter 90 money to pave bottom of Burrington Hill.

We were awarded \$7,500 for a cardboard compactor – a new one costs \$15,000.

Jeff is the only one with a license to operate the tractor. The sheriff's department helped with roadside clean-up.

The current budget is \$496,784. Jeff will try to reduce by 10%.

MVP

Robyn attended FRCOG meeting with Betsy. The grant money covers their assistance. Cut back trees by roadside, culverts, roadwork. 75% grant/25%town. Can partner up with FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Tim – Jacobs Rd

Fixing door in gym and EXIT lights. The school has a 4,000g oil tank. Ordered 1,000g in November. We use 200-300g per week @ \$2.86 per gallon. Hartnett came to fix circulating pump. Tim bought screening to replace screens.

Alarm system – keyboard needs replacement

Palmeri Electrician bill - \$1,000.00 ballast (outside); \$400.00 parking lot lights.

Returned to Fin Com meeting 7:40

Discussed funding for broadband and concerns about cost of plowing Mohawk estates in order to keep the broadband project moving. School budget should be considered for cut - school population has decreased over last 10 years but costs continue to increase. Tax rate has not been certified yet. Heath has 70,000 in free cash. Current rate: \$21.60 Heath's tax rate.

Next week: no anticipated meetings at present.

Motion to adjourn 8:25 Seconded by Kathy Inman. Unanimously approved.