**MEETING MINUTES**

**Town of Heath Finance Committee**

**March 24, , 2020**

Called to order at 7:04pm by Chair Ned Wolf with Ken Gilbert, Kathy and Jan Carr, present.

**Review of minutes** of March 4, 2020.

**STM**- consulted MA attorney General’s office, STM postponed until April 14.

Latest version of article 3, from Yesterday: Ned review –OPEB will not be a concern because Heath cannot join the now district this year. Would be necessary to have answer to OPEB first – might happen as soon as next School year.  Heath may need to pay as much as 60,000. May happen but not for fiscal 21.

**Gaps in article 3 -** not all information available yet.

Debt service sections – nothing for 2 broad band borrowings but will be approx. 22, 000 First borrowing - 14, 300, and second borrowing 500,000 interest 7,400

**Other increases**–MTRSD 93,000 decrease for FCTS 45,000. Total increase of 48,000 = .53 on tax rate

Biggest ones – maintenance of 18 Jacobs.

**Review of Figures** presented by **Town Facilities Task Force**: Some numbers have been left out, such as insurance costs. Not reconciled to accountant’s reports.

Some numbers incorrectly included: Internet/phone charges should not be included – because of multiple lines – this will need to be changed to 18 Jacobs if primary town business is relocated there, which will increase costs there.

**One Town Facilities Task force proposal**: Offer Sawyer Hall and Community Hall to Historical society for $1.00, but Ned responded that historical society does not have funds to maintain either of those buildings. Discussion of other building needs/costs which have not been clearly identified with time lines of when they should be done, with reference to Potomack study, includes roof, re-pointing walls, parking lot, boiler controls etc.

**Concerns**  re – Heath Town Facilities Task Force

Numbers used for expenses:

Skirting around major maintenance issues that were identified to be addressed by Potomack study.

If Town Offices are moved to 18 Jacobs for same amount of time as Sawyer Hall – expenses at 18 Jacobs will increase –

**Building operating costs**, Total costs – S.Hall 22,718 C.Hall 19, 830 comb.= **42,548**

 Jacobs **61,743**Amount spent According to information compiled from Heath town accounts.

**Increasing costs:  Recycling** and dump tipping going up –

**HD** Request = 2 new plows, for new pickup, and Truck #3 (7,200 for larger plow and 5,200 for smaller plow.)

**Current tax rate** 22.25 Ned estimates 23.88 next year, the following year will be big year – broad band loans come in - tax increases over 1.00 – maybe as big as 1.40

(90,000 = $1.00 increase)

**Fin com’s  job**– looking into expenses of all the buildings

**Task force’s job -** looking into the use/condition (comparative analysis) of the buildings.

Jan made a movement to adjourn seconded by Ken. Meeting adjourned at 8:37.

Respectfully submitted,

 Kathy Inman