

Buckland Finance Committee Minutes  
NOVEMBER 20, 2017

Meeting called to order at Buckland Town Hall, 7 p.m.

**Committee members present:** Karen Blom, Paula Consolo, Larry Langford, Michael Turley, Ben Murray arrived at 7:08 pm.

**Others present:** Andrea Llamas, town administrator

**Michael motions to accept the minutes from Oct. 16. Larry seconds. Unanimously approved.**

**Rec Committee discussion**

Rec could not attend; Cindy had a family medical emergency.

Summer program went quite well. Moving forward on planning for improvements and a new pool. Cost is a big factor. They have received some cost estimates and will be meeting to discuss this in the near future. They are considering a crowd-funding measure in which the state would match \$50,000. We may be able to use the \$500,000 donation that we received for a match grant for the pool. Paula would like to make sure that the committee does not start with pie-in-the-sky planning. We must be conscious of our future operating expenses. We have a \$15,000 capital expense for the parking area. Finance Committee thinks further discussion is necessary in order to determine if we are ready to fund the parking area before a master plan of the facility is done.

Rec and Senior Center committees will come to our next meeting.

School Committee Reps Martha Thurber and David Parrella arrive at 7:22 pm

Discuss BSE capital project. We need to decide when to do the rest of the work on the floor tiles. Finance manager has supplied scenarios for 5-, 7-, and 10-year loans. Martha will find out how much we are spending on repairing floor tiles annually.

Town of Shelburne reps and Senior Center reps want to swap land at BSE for the senior center. Land owned by Shelburne in back of BSE would be swapped for land on the corner of the property, near the band shell. There is a question about the equality of value for these two parcels. Also, the School Committee is aware that the street-side land may be quite valuable for the future of BSE. The town reps, senior center reps, and school committee reps will be meeting on Nov. 28 at 4 pm at BSE to look at the land and to discuss. Buckland is encouraged to send reps.

Martha and Dave leave at 7:56 pm

Free cash was certified for this year at \$59,632, which is much lower than what it has been in the past few years. This year the demand notices went out later than usual, which may have affected free cash. Andrea will have a better picture of why it's lower when she gets the report.

Karen would like Finance Committee members to review the Financial Policies and Procedures before our next meeting. Andrea will email a PDF to us.

Andrea feels that the town needs to look at the bigger picture of what infrastructure we are supporting. Ben will ask his father what trucks Ashfield has, and Andrea will ask Shelburne for a list of their highway trucks.

Andrea will put together some data showing a decade of revenue to help determine whether our revenue stream is decreasing and if so, by how much and how quickly.

Need to talk with Steve Daby about the capital requests.

Next meeting is Dec. 18 at Buckland Public Library at 7 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Paula Consolo