

Buckland Finance Committee Minutes  
December 18, 2017

Meeting called to order at Buckland Public Library, 7:00 p.m.

**Committee members present:** Karen Blom, Michael Turley, Larry Langford, Bill Knittle, Paula Consolo, Ben Murray (arrived 7:15 pm)

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

Karen moved to accept the minutes from 11/20/17; unanimously accepted.

**7:05 pm Senior Center Discussion** present: Cathy Buntin, Margaret Paine, Ellen Ellers, Joanne Soroka, Eric Temple, Donna Leible & Mike McCusker

Capital request: \$15,000

Requesting another capital item of \$15,000 from each of the 3 participating towns. The multi-million dollar new Sr Ctr is moving forward with the formation of an expansion committee. Need a variety of funding sources which the foundation is researching - grants, donations, capital campaign. Want some financial support from the municipalities to jettison other donations and grants.

Biggest issue is a location for 2x current size. The site next to BSE at the corner of Church and Mechanic streets is the favored location but Mr Bishop would have to sell them his adjacent lot. Still open to looking at other locations but haven't found any that meet their standards - in the village with handicap accessibility and good parking. The Fin com suggested the Buckland Police building on Conway Street since it meets many of the requirements. Want a firm site by spring 2018 in order to get requests on the town meeting warrants in May. Cathy Buntin, COE Director stated that they will be asking the towns for \$ each year and it may be more than the \$15,000 requested in the past two years. They want to put this towards a stabilization account until they start building.

**7:45 pm Rec Committee Discussion** (Cindy Swartz, Carol Foote arrived)

Capital request: \$15,000.

Road, trees, electric, parking area work needed at the Rec. as next step for new pool and camp facility. Current road is in the flood plain and needs to be moved. Road locations would be about the same with all pool designs. They're applying for a grant to put in a playground this year.

Public meeting on Jan. 22 at Town Hall at 6 p.m. to review designs and needs for the proposed \$1.5 million dollar project.

**8:05 pm BSE Asbestos removal project discussion**

Capital request: \$300,000 shared with town of Shelburne

School Committee Building Committee wants to do the entire project now. Shelburne Finance Committee needs to discuss this too. They are questioning the need. If we hold off a year, our debt payments will be lower; however, we feel that this is a clear-cut cost and we think we'd prefer to do the entire abatement and finance it for 10 years.

### **Special Town Meeting Warrant**

Highway Garage: Article 1 move \$83,050 from General Stabilization to pay for engineering for the highway facility. **Paula moves that we support; Karen seconds. Unanimously supported.**

Buckland Rec Playground: Article 2 Accept a grant for the playground. **Karen moves to support; Paula seconds. Unanimously approved.**

Shelburne Falls Wastewater Treatment: Article 3 **Ben moves; Karen seconds. Unanimously approved.**

Schedule: We need another meeting to discuss capital project requests before diving into operating budget requests. Scheduled for Jan. 15 at Buckland Public Library at 7 pm. Pick up FY19 budget books from Andrea at the town hall prior to our next meeting,

Andrea gave us a handout with information requested by Kevin Fox.  
Karen would like to add our Town Valuation to the letter we give to residents at town meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:19 pm.

Next meeting is January 15 at 7 pm, at Buckland Public Library.  
Jan. 22 meeting at 7 pm in Town Hall at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Paula Consolo and Karen Blom