

Board of Finance Ad Hoc Planning Subcommittee Minutes

Special Meeting
Thursday September 7, 2023
Town Hall Room B
7:00 pm

1. Call to order: Michele Woz called meeting to order at 7:01 pm

- a. **Members Present:** David Fortin
Sonia Greene
Charlene Perkins Cutler
Kate McDonald
Michele Woz

Members Absent: Hans Frankhouser is excused

- b. **Others Present:** Ray & Pam Morgan, Preston Shultz and Recording Secretary Amy Monahan

2. Approve minutes of July, 12, 2023 Meeting

- a. The date of next meeting was incorrect in the posted minutes. The correct date should have been August 9, 2023.
- b. Incorrect spelling of Victor Toth was documented in the minutes. The correct spelling is Viktor with a "K"
- i. Dave Fortin made a ***Motion** to approve the July 12, 2023 Ad Hoc Planning Subcommittee meeting minutes as amended above. ***Seconded** by Kate McDonald. ***The motion passed unanimously.**

3. Old Business

- a. Review of Draft Subcommittee Report
- i. Michele Woz has distributed the updated draft to committee members for review. Her intention is to create recommendations and present them on the currently blank summary of recommendations section in a simple and user-friendly manner as the details in the remainder of the document are available to read if desired.
- ii. Michele Woz reviewed the draft by section. The group made some minor changes to grammar and incorrect data to better reflect the information presented. Topics discussed for further addition to the document included:
1. Taxation for non-mission related property of Non-Profit Organization
 2. Payment in Lieu of Taxes
 3. Tax amnesty program for personal property taxes
 4. Sustainable Services
 5. Education Costs and Taxation Compensation Considerations
 6. Compartmentalization within Town Operations and its impact on the town
- iii. If anyone in the group has any further recommendations for discussion, they should be emailed to Michele Woz.
- b. Future Needs of Town
- i. Recommendation holding of a series of public forums and to include input of community stakeholders in future budgets and decisions. Recommend that Boards and Commissions hold public forums to address specific topics relative to their purview and have them report back to this committee.

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- c. Potential Revenue Expansion
 - i. This will be addressed at a later date

4. New Business

- a. Board of Education Report
 - i. Dattco is looking to upgrade their fleet which could result in EV busses. This change would require action at an unknown cost to the Town of Woodstock that needs to be researched and considered.
 - ii. Education budget faces many unknown future mandates that will impact Town Budget.
 - 1. Michele Woz noted that an effort needs to be made to reach out to state representatives advocating for assistance with mandated topics.
 - iii. Options surrounding large number of preschool age students that currently are not able to attend pre school including the possibility of a tuition based preschool program. There is also the possibility of future mandated universal preschool.
 - iv. The limited eligibility of the Town of Woodstock to receive grant funding as most education grants are based on town wealth- many of the grants available require studies and actions from town committees for consideration.
 - 1. Strategic planning on the town level is needed to successfully maintain infrastructure
 - v. Current facility rentals at the schools provide income to the Board of Education. There are more possible income generating options for non-school events that could be financially beneficial.
 - vi. There are currently 5 nonresident students paying tuition to the Woodstock Public School System. Exploring the benefits of more nonresident students would benefit the Town of Woodstock.
- b. Compile List of Recommendations
 - i. The committee members will send all items to be considered to Michele Woz to be compiled and addressed at the next meeting.
- c. Set Next Meeting Date/Next Steps
 - i. The next meeting will be on October 10, 2023 at 7:00 pm
 - ii. The committee will prioritize the importance of the items in the matrix and send all recommendations to Michele Woz to create an updated draft to address at the next meeting.

5. Public Comment

- a. Ray Morgan shared his ideas about town own lands. Michele Woz noted that considerations noted are a future decision of the Board of Selectmen.
- b. Pam Morgan asked if the Town of Woodstock has a facilities department that can partake in asset management programs and software that are available for municipalities. Woodstock currently does not have that facilities management person/department on a town wide level.

6. Correspondence & Announcements

- a. None

7. Adjournment

- a. Kate McDonald made a ***Motion to Adjourn. *Seconded** by Charlene Perkins Cutler. ***The Motion Passed Unanimously.** Meeting Adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Monahan, Recording Secretary. DISCLAIMER: These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Finance. Please refer to next month's meeting for approval/amendments.