

Acton Finance Committee
August 11, 2014
Acton Town Hall, Room 126

Steve Noone (Chair), Mike Majors (Vice-Chair), Margaret Woolley Busse (Clerk), Pat Clifford, Bob Evans, Mary Ann Ashton, Doug Tindal, Bill Mullin, and Herman Kabakoff

Chairman Noone Called to meeting at 7:32pm

- I. **Public Participation** –none heard
- II. **Report on ALG** (see numbers on turnbacks in ALG minutes—roughly \$1.5 million in turnbacks from the town) Steve updated us on the ALG meeting, including estimated turnbacks from the town, Date for 3-board meeting likely Tuesday, October 28th.
Members of ALG: Mike Gowing, Katie Green, Steve LeDoux and Steve Barrett, Steve Noone, Mike Majors, Dennis Bruce and Kristina Rychlik, Glenn Brand, Marie Altieri
Discussion re: how long range an ALG financial plan should be—should we push for a five year financial model?
- III. **Long-range Financial Planning Report on Meeting with Regional School Committee**
Some committee discussion.
- IV. **Finance Committee Business**
 - a. **MOTION** made by Pat to approve the minutes of July 22, 2014. Bob seconded the motion. All members voted in favor except for Herman and Bill, who abstained since they were not in attendance at the July 22, 2014 meeting
 - b. **Committee Membership** Committee discussed qualities of a good candidate for Fincom membership, as Pat Clifford is resigning. Discussed doing outreach. Margaret will reach out to PTSO presidents and write an article for the Beacon (check with Don first to confirm this outreach strategy).
 - c. **Committee updates:**
 - i. Acton 2020 and Kelley's Corner committee: Margaret updated the committee on Kelley's Corner, mentioning that she had recently heard that a state Transportation Bond Bill had an earmark of \$3 million to fund Kelley's Corner. In addition, she told the committee that the current work at the KC intersection was being done by the state in order to make the sidewalk corners ADA (American Disability Act) compliant. Many committee members asked various questions about these issues: Now that we have the \$3 million from the state (without having the project finished) how do we decide how to spend it? And the part of the grant that is supposed to be the grant application, where does that money go to? How is it possible didn't know about the ADA state highway project? Margaret said she would get answers to these questions and Chairman Noone suggested that the committee compile a list of questions about these issues for Town Manager Steve LeDoux.
 - ii. Update from Bob on the health insurance trust—probably make a modest amount of money from this fiscal year or roughly break even
 - d. **Discussion of Acton Nursing Service consultant report**

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Joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen, convened at 10pm

I. Presentation by Healthcare Management Solutions (HMS) (consultants) on the Acton Nursing Service (ANS)

Questions by Fincom members:

Mike—What is the town obligated to provide in health services? Doug Halley: the public health component

Bob—clarifying questions re: how many ANS patients served in town vs out of town and what the operating losses of ANS were over the last five years

Pat—We need to know the costs of the navigator role—can't make a decision on this without that.

Margaret—Echo Pat in needing financial projections and Bob in that it seems like too early to jump into the Navigator system. Why Parmenter? Doug Halley: seemed like the best match in terms of size and services

Herman—Echoes others' concerns; it's time to get out of the nursing service business

Mary Ann—What will Parmenter receive out of this transfer? Consultant: Just the patients of ANS, no assets or financial reimbursements. What would be the timetable to the transition? Doug Halley: need to have decision of BoS and then a special town meeting.

Doug—Doesn't make sense to do navigator right now, since it's too untested—no other town in Massachusetts is doing this

Bill—The total cost of the next iteration (net result) should be less money

Steve—a fair % of what we've been providing has been going to other towns, since many patients are out of town. No justification to keep this subsidy for 75 people when the services can be provided by other providers.

Comments were then made by members of the Board of Selectmen

MOTION was made by Margaret Woolley Busse and seconded by Mike Majors to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11:00pm. All members voted in the affirmative.

Documents used: ALG July 31st agenda and several sets of ALG minutes; report by HMS on the Acton Nursing Service