

MINUTES

MIDDLEFIELD FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

DECEMBER 10, 2012

PRESENT: Joe Kearns, Scott Artioli, Judy Hoag, Janine Savoy and Ed Vivier

The meeting opened at 7:09 pm.

Finance committee member Janine Savoy announced that she will be taping tonight's meeting.

Chairman Joe Kearns made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting and committee member Janine Savory seconded the motion. The minutes of the previous meeting on October 1, 2012 were unanimously approved as read.

Chairman Kearns updated the committee regarding the 13 kw solar array being built behind the town hall by Paradise Energy.

The Dept. of Revenue has notified the Town of Middlefield that our "free cash" has been approved. The certification of \$186,475 as of July 1, 2012 is in accordance with the provisions of G.L. Chapter 59, 23, as amended.

Regarding the town legal bills account, we started with \$6,000 and the account now has \$700.

Joe Russo has been appointed our new Veteran's Agent.

The town has to pay an additional \$7,000 tuition to the vocational school because a student has moved back to Middlefield.

Cuts from the state cherry sheet, approved by the governor, appear to be 1% or around \$1,000.

Gateway School Budget figures should start arriving next week.

Chairman Kearns announced that we will probably be using the same format for our annual town meeting budget as last year, which seemed to work well, but we will adjust as needed.

For capital expenses we will include an electrical review regarding the town hall electric service. An engineering firm would be hired to advise us on our needs, codes, etc. Other future capital expense considerations could be a police/fire/ems garage, a new police cruiser and additional recreational opportunities for our children. We will also give consideration to possibly enacting the Community Preservation Act for Middlefield.

The committee will be working on a questionnaire for residents to gain their input on capital planning ideas for the next five years, ten years or more.

The committee also discussed the \$15,000 limit for personal injury insurance for the volunteer fire and ems personnel. Chairman Kearns indicated that he would follow this up with MIA, our town insurance provider.

Chairman Kearns entertained a motion to end the meeting and member Judy Hoag seconded the motion. The meeting came to a close at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Vivier
Secretary