

MINUTES

MIDDLEFIELD FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

MARCH 15, 2016

PRESENT: Joe Kearns, Judy Hoag, Dale Hoag and Ed Vivier. Scott Artioli sends his regrets.

The meeting opened at 7:00 pm.

This week's guest is our own finance committee member Judy Hoag who is also the very capable chairman of the Middlefield Council on Aging. This year's COA budget will see an increase of \$1,700 over last year, to fund insulated curtains for the COA building. This is part of an ongoing project to better insulate and reduce the heating cost while at the same time providing our seniors and other residents who use the building with a pleasant and comfortable experience. As a comparison the 2014 budget was \$3,580 while even with the suggested improvements, the 2017 budget will be \$4200. "The seniors really enjoy going to the Center, getting out and doing things such as the meals and workshops" according to Judy. She also noted that the "Dump Run Café" at the COA was very successful averaging 20 + residents on Sundays. It is completely self-sufficient and serves as a great way to bring our residents together for coffee and sweets.

In other matters our committee continues to review the annual warrant line by line under the direction of Chairman Kearns. Many items were for the same amounts as the 2016 budget. Two changes, so far, the treasurer is asking for a \$300 salary increase and the selectboard is seeking an increase in the Town Council account to \$20,000, up from \$12,000 in the 2016 budget.

FYI, the tax rate is increased approximately \$1.00 for every \$65,000 spent in our budget.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at 7:00 pm with Highway Superintendent Skip Savery and Town Clerk Suzanne Lemieux.

The meeting closed at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Vivier
Secretary