

**TOWN OF HAMILTON
FINANCE & ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JULY 15, 2015**

The Hamilton Finance & Advisory Committee: Rick Sprenkle, Charles Chivakos, Nick Tensen(arrived at 6:35 p.m.), David Wanger, met at the Hamilton Public Safety Building at 6:50 p.m. on Wednesday, July 15, 2015. Finance Directors Deborah Nippes-Mena and Brian Connolly also present.

Call to order

Rick Sprenkle called the Hamilton Finance & Advisory Committee meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

Public Comment

Ann Minois asked if a debt schedule was available. Brian Connelly offered to put a total debt schedule together for the Town.

Chair/Liaison Reports

Discussion ensued with Charles Chivakos continuing as liaison for public safety and he will take on HDC, that John Kane will be joining the Committee, Rick Sprenkle will be responsible for library, CPC, ConCom, HWRSD, David Wanger will focus on COA and other liaison responsibilities (financial) previously overseen by Michele Stecyk who completed her term, and Nick Tensen will continue with Recreation. Committee members will serve as primary liaisons and alternates as needed.

Discussion ensued about CPC exploration of raising CPA surcharge for the Town from the current 2% to 2.5% or 3% annually, and the process involved if a change were put forward including initiation of a (citizens') petition, Annual Town Meeting vote and subsequent ballot vote at spring Town election. Also discussed was the HWRSD lease for Cutler and Winthrop Elementary Schools for 10 years with a 10 year extension and minority group interested in seeking a shorter lease duration as part of long term planning for school district.

Connolly emphasized FinCom's advisory role under Town manager form of government relative to duplicative efforts regarding cash flow and revenue growth analysis for the Town to understand how Hamilton will pay for expenses (i.e., OPEB),

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and to identify risk for the Town. Connolly noted that he would generate a quarterly financial report for the FinCom.

Minutes Approval – June 2, and June 8, 2015

Charles Chivakos moved to approve the June 2, 2015 minutes. Nick Tensen seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Chivakos moved to approve June 8, 2015 minutes. Tensen seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Vote officers and confirm liaisons

The Committee had confirmed liaisons and will determine alternates once new member is on board. Discussion was on having Sprenkle continue as chair, Wanger assigned as vice chair, and Tensen responsible for minutes review and agenda creation/posting.

Chivakos moved to approve Rick Sprenkle as chair, David Wanger as vice chair and Nick Tensen as clerk. Tensen seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Year end transfers

Chivakos moved to rescind approval of the June 8, 2015 year end transfer of \$174,872 and vote approval on the June 15, 2015 year end transfer of \$187,372. Tensen seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

STM Warrant Schedule

Connolly will provide FinCom with a copy of schedule.

Continued discussion FY2016 goals

Discussion was on FY2016 goals with the Committee members assigned to topics: OPEB - Tensen, improving tax base – Chivakos, housing market – Wanger, repurposing/consolidation of school property – Sprenkle, Hamilton/Wenham joint operational efficiencies – Tensen/Wanger, marketing communications – Sprenkle/Chivakos, solar energy, anaerobic digesters, cell towers, waste enterprise – Sprenkle, non-profits/PILOT with GCTS and Pingree School – Wanger, Chapter 61A and B properties – Chivakos.

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Next meeting dates

FinCom will meet next on August 17 at 7 p.m. with BOS at Town Hall to review capital improvement plan and set budget parameters for FY'17. Connolly will create an annual FinCom meeting schedule.

Sprenkle entertained a motion for the FinCom to adjourn at 9:18 p.m. Chivakos so moved. Tensen seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Dooley, Minutes Secretary

ATTEST:  (7 Aug 2015)
Rick Sprenkle, Chairman