

# TOWN OF GILL

MASSACHUSETTS



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## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

*October 11, 2012*

Call to Order: The Selectboard meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

Present: Ann Banash, John Ward, and Randy Crochier Selectboard members; Ray Purington, Admin. Assistant; Claire Chang, Ronnie LaChance, Jim Poulsen, and Alden Booth, Finance Committee members; Timmie Smith.

Alden Booth called the Finance Committee to order at 7:05pm.

Review of FY13 Supplemental Budget and 10/15 STM: The Selectboard and Finance Committee reviewed the articles and motions for the 10/15 Special Town Meeting. Ray explained that based on information received today from Department of Revenue Tax Counsel, Gill's Town Counsel is recommending passing over the article to create a revolving fund for the FCSWMD recycling revenue. Tax Counsel feels it should be established at an annual town meeting. This change does not affect the financial plan for the rest of the STM articles, as the FCSWMD's \$3,321 assessment will simply be paid from the Town's escrow fund with the District, rather than from the revolving fund.

There was discussion of possible uses for the revolving fund next year when it is created. Composting bins and rain barrels were two suggestions, if Town-sponsored groups (like the Agricultural or Energy Commissions) wanted to coordinate it. It was also questioned whether the escrow and/or revolving fund could be used toward the differential cost of a hybrid cruiser, as that might be an "environmentally preferable product."

Ronnie made a motion, seconded by Jim, that the Finance Committee recommend passing over Article 1. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.

It was requested that the explanation for Article 3 include more information about the supplemental interest being paid to Greenfield Cooperative Bank. Ray will add that for the handout at the STM.

In response to a question about the additional \$3,000 being recommended in Article 5 for the Trees & Forestry budget, it was explained that \$3,700 had been originally requested by the Highway Superintendent, but that the lower amount should be adequate. Hired tree removal crews charge \$1,000 per day, so this will add 3 more days to the budget. In FY11 and FY12 the regular Highway budget covered 2 and 3 days of tree work respectively.

Ronnie made a motion, seconded by Jim, that the Finance Committee recommend Article 5. The vote was 4 in favor and 0 opposed.

FY14 Budget Process: The Selectboard and Finance Committee agreed to first meet separately and then meet jointly to discuss a process and timeline to be used for developing the FY14 budget. It was left that the Finance Committee will identify several possible dates for the meeting and will send them to Ray to select a date with the Selectboard.


The Finance Committee adjourned at 7:40pm. Alden, Ronnie, and Jim left the meeting.

The Selectboard discussed ways to approach the FY14 budget process, with a strong preference for an early start. It is expected that the Annual Town Meeting will still be done in two parts, with the financial articles reserved for the second half when state aid and school assessments are known with greater certainty. It was felt that budget meetings with the departments should be done jointly with the Finance Committee in order to make efficient use of the departments' time.

Ray was asked to update the FY14 budget calendar that was proposed in June, and to distribute it to the departments next week.

Adjournment: The Selectboard meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.*



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John R. Ward, Selectboard Clerk

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December 3, 2012	Review preliminary revenue projections; set FY14 budget guidelines for Depts.
January 7, 2013	Budget Worksheets emailed to Departments
January 28, 2013	Budget Worksheets returned from Departments
February 4, 2013	SB Regular Meeting (Joint with FinCom?) – Distribute Budget Binders
Feb 12, 19, 26 Mar 5, 12, 19	SB & FinCom – weekly meetings, question exchange w/ Depts., meet with Depts. <i>late March independent SB &amp; FC mtg</i>
March 28, 2013	Warrant Articles Due <i>early April into May joint mtg to discuss</i>
April 1, 2013	SB Regular Meeting – Review Draft Warrant
April 15, 2013	SB Regular Meeting – Sign Warrant
April 29, 2013	Last Day to Post Warrant
May 6, 2013	Annual Town Meeting
June 17, 2013	" " " continuation, if needed