MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday, April 11, 2016
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Town Hall, 2nd Floor Meeting Room, 173 Main Street, Groton
Members Present: Russell Burke, Dan Emerson, Richard Hewitt, Mike Roberts
Absent Members: Robert DeGroot, Matthew Frary, Bruce Easom
Others Present: Robin Eibye

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Russell Burke at 7:00 p.m.

2016-03 FIRST PARISH CHURCH/OLD MEETING HOUSE

Al Collins began his update on the First Parish Church/Old Meetinghouse project stating that per the Board’s request he provided a detailed budget for funding Phase 1A and Phase 1B. He stated that two-thirds of Phase 1A would be CPA funded and one-third would be Old Groton Meeting House funded. Phase 1B would include painting of the church’s façade.

Mr. Collins referenced the First Parish Church of Groton Joint Leadership Board minutes dated March 20, 2016. He pointed out that the First Parish Church committed to completing Phase 1B of the project by August 31, 2018.

Mr. Collins explained that the façade painting will only be done during summer months due to the Sunshine School students and parental concerns with safety.

Mr. Emerson inquired as to what method of removing the paint would be used. A brief discussion ensued about paint durability. Mr. Collins stated they are researching paint options.

Mr. Roberts moved to accept the revisions to the schedule of completing the First Parish Church/Old Meeting House project by August 31, 2018. Member Hewitt seconded and the motion carried 4:0 (Robert DeGroot and Matthew Frary, absent).

TOWN MEETING PRESENTERS

A discussion ensued and it was decided that Daniel Emerson will present project 2017-01 HOUSING COORDINATOR, Matthew Frary will present project 2017-02 GROTON MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK, Robert DeGroot will present project 2017-04 MONUMENT RESTORATION, and Russell Burke will present 2017-05 FRIENDS OF PRESCOTT project at Town Meeting on Monday, April 25, 2016.
BUDGET

Mr. Burke noted that the February 2016 Community Preservation Trust Fund revenue from the Registries of Deeds was up 15.9 percent in February compared to February of 2015. To date, FY2016 trust fund revenues are up 10.3 percent compared to this point last year.

Mr. Burke stated that Bruce Easom provided a snapshot from the Registry of Deeds. He went on to note that the funds are up almost $1,500.00 from last year.

A brief discussion ensued about the City of Boston joining the Community Preservation Committee and the impact it may have on the Town.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Mr. Burke stated that affordable for sale properties available are difficult because of the narrow bandwidth to qualify for mortgage funding. He also noted that affordable rental properties are needed in town.

Mr. Roberts asked how many subsidized housing units are available in Town. Mr. Burke stated he did not know how long the waitlist was for subsidized housing. Mr. Roberts noted that many of the people living in the subsidized housing are grand-parents of children living in Town.

MINUTES

Draft minutes from March 14, 2016, were reviewed.

Mr. Roberts moved to reconsider the Board vote to approve application #2016-02 Groton Middle School Track for funding in the amount of $160,000.00 to town meeting for approval. Mr. Easom seconded and the motion carried 4:0 (Robert DeGroot and Matthew Frary, absent). It was noted that Mr. DeGroot voted to approve the application on March 14, 2016.

Mr. Hewitt moved to accept the March 14, 2016, minutes with one correction: update two school districts to read as the school district and two towns. Mr. Easom seconded and the motion carried 4:0 (Robert DeGroot and Matthew Frary, absent).

Mr. Emerson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm. Mr. Hewitt seconded and the motion carried 4:0 (Robert DeGroot and Matthew Frary, absent).

Respectfully submitted by Robin Eibye, Executive Assistant