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Town of Acton Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: June 12th, 2018

Town Hall Room 204 7:30 pm

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Members in Attendance: Jason Cole (Chair), Mike Majors, Dave Wellinghoff, Jeff Bergart, Thomas Farley, Christine Russell, Steve Noone, Sahana Purohit (associate)

Absent: Roland Bourdon (Vice-Chair), Christi Andersen (Clerk)

Other: Brian McMullen, Janet Adachi (BoS)

Called to order at 7:30

Public Participation:
none

POV Conversation:

Drafting Committee: Christine Russell, Roland Bourdon, and Christi Andersen

Meeting Outreach Coordinator: Tom Farley and Sahana Purohit

Due Date: POV draft available for first meeting in August. Goal to complete POV document by September 30th, 2018.

Information to Include (but not limited to): Capital planning, land development, possible budget override, operating budget growth %, compensation growth rate, reserve use. Jeff Bergert recommends we look at other town POVs from comparable towns for potential information to add to our document. Discussion touched on difficulty in accurately comparing towns due to variations in budgetary processes. Would like us to consider a page on the benefits and usefulness of KPIs (key performance indicators) as an accountability measure in the thought process of town and school budgeting.

Projects:

- Mike Majors proposed we request an update from Associated Environmental Systems on job creation, payroll benefits, etc. Brian McMullen will see if that report exists before we reach out.
- Jeff Bergert proposed we come to understand where the school and town stands as far as outstanding litigation, to understand potential risk. May require executive session.
- Steve Noone proposed we discover the genesis of the “Survey on Housing” and ask for access to the feedback.

Minutes:

Meeting minutes for 2/27/2018 approved. Jeff Bergert and Sahana Purohit abstain. Meeting minutes for 5/22/2018 approved unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Town manager search committee - Steve Noone

Last meeting. Approved minutes, asked BOS to vote to dissolve committee.

School committee – Christine Russell

New Chair, Diane Baum voted in. Voted to recommend limiting number of AP classes to a max of 5 per year. Individual school budgets will now be allocated by enrollment; it was not in the past.

School Building Committee – Jason Cole

October 2019, earliest possible date for project bonding.

Walker Property – Mike Majors

Significant announcement coming soon.

Schedule:

Finance Committee will continue to meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, Town Hall, Room 204 @7:30.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Russell

Finance Committee Clerk (Acting)