Ashby Finance Committee May 24, 2011

Members present: Sue Caron Kathy Panagiotes Joseph Armstrong-Champ (secretary) Chris Haynes John Margosiak Kevin Stetson (chair)

Meeting called to order at 7:33pm

There is approximately \$16,000 in the Reserve Fund. Special Town Meeting added \$10,000 to the fund.

Reserve Fund Transfers:

RFT 11-42 (to the Police Expense line) in the amount of \$1313.25 was approved RFT 11-40 (to Highway Fuel) in the amount of \$1,1015.79 was approved

RFT 11-41 (to Highway Diesel Gas Expense) in the amount of \$1,120.79 was approved

Year End Transfer from Police Chief Salary to Police Expense of \$3,667.73 was approved

It was decided that the Finance Committee should do a capital spending plan for the purpose of long term spending goals. We will start this discussion in earnest in the fall.

We will be meeting once a month (4th Tuesday) in the summer on the following dates: June 28, July 26 and August 23.

We will be inviting Harald Scheid, the Town's assessor, to the August meeting to clear up some questions that members have about the process of local tax assessment.

It was decided that communication with the press should be done only through the chair or at one of our meetings.

A FinCom member questioned whether the Town Bylaws were being followed properly; Refernce Town Bylaw IV "section 3. Sentence 3 reads as follows: If any member is absent from four consecutive meetings of the said committee, except in case of illness, his or her position shall be deemed to be vacant and shall be filled as herein provided". Section 4 of the General Provisions states a fine shall be levied of \$300.00 if the provisions of the bylaws are violated. The committee is trying to understand the proper procedure of the Town government. Prior direction of the Moderator may or may not violate the Town ByLaw documents. Needs further review.

The following is a list of contact information for committee members:

- Kathy Panagiotes: <u>kpanagiotes@comcast.net</u> / 386-2211
- Joe Armstrong-Champ: 386-1017
- Sue Carron: <u>mssuecaron@yahoo.com</u> / 386-7343
- John Margosiak: jmargosiak@yahoo.com / 386-6816
- Kevin Stetson: Stetson.kevin@gmail.com / 386-0108
- Chris Haynes: chaynes68@gmail.com / 978-807-1294

Meeting Adjoined at 9:35pm

Note: info from another meeting that should be recorded: the contact for the Dept Of Revenue for FinCom questions is Joe Markovian (617-626-2321