

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF JULY 13, 2009

Members Present: B. Clouette, G. Nesbitt, Mayor Paterson (ex officio)

Other Council Members Present: H. Koehn, M. Lindsey

Staff Present: M. Hart, C. Trahan

Guests: None

Meeting to order at 6:30pm.

1. Minutes from 6/8/09 meeting approved as presented
2. 2009/10 Budget Debrief – A review of the budget process for the 2009/10 included the new publications provided to taxpayers – Citizens Budget Guide, flyer mailed to all households with the highlights of the Council's budget, and an updated detail budget to present the Council's adopted budget. Also discussed was the volume, and level of detail, of information that was provided to the Council and posted on the website during the workshops. The impact of the requests for information on staff as well as the dialog between the Council and staff was discussed.

Additional discussion revolved around what information staff could provide to the Council at the beginning of the budget process to enable to Council to give staff policy direction going into the budget process. Cherie suggested starting off with a review of the current year's budget –what services are being provided; have there been any changes from what was proposed (monetary or programmatic); what changes does the Council want to see for the next year. There was consensus from the Finance Committee that this indeed might be helpful and we should consider for the next budget process.

3. Matt Hart discussed the 2008/09 inter-local agreement with Columbia. He informed the Finance Committee that he would be discussing the questions raised regarding the outcome, cost, and revenue to Mansfield at the Council meeting that evening.
4. Possible future agenda items were discussed – rescue billing, review the use of legal services, question of posting delinquent taxes, review of the statutes as they apply to tax collection, and the usage of town vehicles and mileage payments.
5. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

Motions:

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Motion was made to accept the June 8, 2009 minutes by Gene Nesbitt and seconded by Bruce Clouette. Motion so passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cherie Trahan
Director of Finance