

**FNANCE COMMITTEE  
TOWN OF CONWAY, MA  
DRAFT MINUTES  
Jan. 7, 2008  
7:00 PM, Town Office**

**Present:** Tanya Campbell, Roy Cohen, Amy Louise Pfeffer, Jim Bosman, John Pitz, Bob Stone

**Review of Minutes of 11/19/07 and 12/3/07 Meetings** – Minutes of 12/3/07 were approved as submitted. Still don't have printout of 11/19 minutes. Jim will bring and submit for approval at next meeting.

**Personnel Committee** – We all signed the letter that Bob drafted and we submitted it to the Select Board. Per Amy-Louise, Conway is already eligible for HR-type support through FRCOG from the Northeast Employers Association.

**Preparations for Budget Meeting with SB** – Questions for SB: What is the background on the Town Garage and what is the current status with the RFQ? What came out of the 4-town school budget meeting? What is SB feeling with regards to the size of the stabilization fund?

**8 PM. Adjourned to meeting with SB.**

**Notes on Meeting with SB**

**Stabilization Fund** – Historically around \$250K (now is at \$489,126 after we added \$125K at last town meeting). The upper limit on the amount of money you can put in Stabilization Fund is 10% of equalized value, which for Conway would be around \$26M.

**Town Garage** – Request for Qualifications is for a designer (architect). None of the \$35K has been spent yet, but is earmarked for the design and may need to be supplemented. Final cost could wind up being \$1.5-\$2M and won't be up for decision at town meeting for a couple more years. There is no state funding for a town garage. There are some federal sources but Ashfield got the federal \$ and now they aren't happy about it because of strings attached.

**Town Offices Space Limited/Awkward/Inappropriate** – Christina reported on the lack of adequate storage space for records and equipment as well as meeting space, and logistical issues with Liz and Lee working out of separate buildings, and inappropriateness of police station being on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of town office. Where/could the town site yet another building to deal with these issues?

**Financial Highlights** – Grammar school capital (and Frontier) payments will be declining; we are moving back away from the levy limit – got close a couple of years, now there's like \$250K; new growth was \$109K last year. Hydroelectric plant was sold so it got a new valuation for taxes.