

MINUTES
COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2011
6:05 P.M. – 6:50 P.M. Municipal Building / Council Chambers A

Item 1. Call to Order. Ronald Ahlquist, Finance Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. Finance Committee Members present – Ronald Ahlquist, Richard Sullivan and Michael Wood; Others present were Thomas Hall, Town Manager, Robert Moulton, Police Chief, and Ruth Porter, Finance Director.

Item 2. Approval of Minutes. Motion by M. Wood, seconded by R. Sullivan to move approval to accept the minutes of July 7, 2011 Finance Committee meeting.

Vote – 3 Yeas

Item 3. Consider Acceptance of COPS Grant. Chief Moulton gave an overall review of the COPS grant that was submitted by the Police Department and was approved in the amount of \$410,932. The funds represent the full salary and benefit package for two officers over a three year period. The grant does require a 12 month retention period in the fourth year. Discussion ensued regarding the increased volume of calls in the community for officers due to growth in various areas of Scarborough particularly in the Gallery Boulevard area and build out of the Payne Rd. corridor. The increased number of calls just for that area is up 66%. It was noted that per capita compared to the surrounding communities Scarborough's number of hired officers is less. Motion by M. Wood, seconded by R. Sullivan to recommend to the full council acceptance of the COPS Grant funding in the amount of \$410, 932.

Vote – 3 Yeas

Item 5. Consider Debt Management Policy. Thomas Hall, Town Manager & Ruth Porter, Finance Director introduced a Debt Management & Fiscal Policy. The Manager indicated that this was a starting point with no expectations for action tonight rather it would prove a good first step. Ruth Porter gave an overview of the suggested policy as to what Scarborough's level of comfort for debt would be and how much is too much. The Manager and the Finance Director advised that the time is right for Scarborough to implement local priorities for debt standards. Finance Committee Chairman Ahlquist stated that this was exactly the type finance topics that the committee has wanted to see brought forward for consideration. The Finance Committee stated the members look forward to further discussion on a Debt Management Policy.

Item 6. Future Agenda Items. Debt Management Policy.

Item 7. Adjourn. Motion by M. Wood, seconded by R. Sullivan, to adjourn at 6:50 p.m.

Vote – 3 Yeas.

Colette Mathieson,
Recording Secretary