

**EMAIL TO COUNCILORS REGARDING COMP PLAN COSTS – FINANCE
COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEM 3-C**

Good Morning -

Councilor Hornbrook had asked me a question that was asked to her by a resident in regard to the funding source for the moderator for the Citizen's Comprehensive Plan Committee. Since the vote in June that voted to hire the moderator did not include a source, I had paid the bills from the same source as the other Comprehensive Plan expenses - Host Community Benefits - that was authorized as the funding source in 2006. I pulled the minutes from the November 6, 2006 Council meeting and forwarded them to Town Attorney Tom Russell for his interpretation. That interpretation is as follows:

Email Response from Tom Russell to the question regarding Comp Plan Costs

Sue: Sorry I did not respond earlier to the comp plan question. I thought the agenda was going out tomorrow. It appears that the original motion at the 11/6/06 meeting was to expend up to \$35,000 to update the comprehensive plan. That motion failed on a tie vote. Discussion ensued on the funding, and you indicated that the Host Community Benefits account would be a reasonable source to fund the update. Councilor Colford then "moved the question", and it passed unanimously. Technically, since the first motion failed for a lack of majority, there was no pending question. I construe the vote as meaning the Council intended to fund the comp plan update with up to \$35,000 from the HCB account. I think the June 2011 vote to send the 2010 draft comp plan to the citizen "planning committee", and hiring a moderator, was covered by the 11/0/06 vote to update the comp plan. Since the motion did not mention any other source of funding, I think it is covered by the 11/6/06 motion as to the funding source (HBC account), but I also think it is covered by the \$35,000 cap on funding. I think the Council needs to vote to fund any amount over \$35,000. Tom

Thus far, the Town has spent the following:

1st Draft:

Penobscot Valley Council of Governments 2006/07 -2008/09 - \$35,066.55

Penobscot Valley Council of Governments 2009/10 (Stacey Benjamin completing work for State submission) - \$1,242.11

Citizen Comp Plan Committee:

Richard Rothe - Facilitator - Citizen's Comp Plan Committee - \$4,171.02

Total Expended - \$4,0479.68

I would recommend that the Finance Committee recommend to the Council that the \$5,479.68 over the original authorization for the comp plan be approved. The funding source is already authorized. I would also recommend that if the Council grants an extension to the Citizen Comp Plan Committee that there be an amount of funding to go

along with the extension that is sufficient to cover facilitator costs or any other costs associated with that process.

This item is on the Finance Committee Agenda for discussion.

Sue