Finance Committee Meeting Minutes April 13, 1988

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7

Present: R. Anderson, M. Brown, J. Doherty, J. Gaffey, P. Helmreich, B. Kimball, C. MacQuown, D. Ward

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT article hearings

D. Casagni notes that within 20 days after the election of a Charter Commission, the Treasurer shall transfer to their account \$5,000 whether appropriated or not. \$5000 for a Town of 12,000 or more
P. Helmreich notes that the Charter Commission may need additional funds if printing is needed.

D. Casagni notes the Commission may need funds for Legal Counsel.

S. Lombard is requesting a transfer of \$5,500 for Medicare expense, #785. Letter also received from J. Hussey.
B. Kimball questions \$15,000 appropriation for next year.
J. Doherty moves to transfer \$5,500 from Finance Committee Reserve, #730, to #785, Medicare Expense
D Ward seconds
Unanimous

#5
Conservation Commission notes these funds are the matching funds to make the Town eligible for State grant for a diagnostic/feasibility study. Grant has been applied for. This would allow Phase I of the Reservoir Clean Up. Matching funds of \$28,000 with \$13,000 appropriated. The grant has been awarded and all other requirements have been met
P. Helmreich requests additional information before Town Meeting to better clarify this article.

#10
Communications Commission note \$11,888.50 is for new Log-In equipment. Current equipment is 9 years old and the head are worn out. The equipment is used 24 hours a day-7 days a week. The dictaphone is obsolete and the Department is having trouble getting replacement parts.

The tapes are requested for court needs etc. The current equipment tapes are bearly usable.

The new equipment has a back up power supply, telephone cupplers and tapes the 911 line.

Bid from City of Newton per Mass law can purchase through another community bid.

Bid includes installation and 14 tapes. 1 yr warranty.

Review of other companies and bids.

#11 Statewide 911 Cost of \$.50 to households.

When an emergency is called to 911 anywhere will go to the closest public safety service. When called to 911, the phone number and address of phone will show in the communication center. Problems - when caller cannot say anything, when address is unknown - can be solved this way, with quicker dispatch of equipment.

Town supplies dispatchers (current employees can handle) Town is supplied with equipment and training Savings to Town of \$150 per month

Review of communications letter advising of projected shortfall, due to shortage of personnel and increase in overtime. Increase in expenses due to telephone costs from \$1500 per month to \$2200 per month, and additional two lines. Communications feeling is need to revise planning grants to include operational costs.

P. Helmreich requests effort to keep the Department close to budget and keep the Finance Committee informed of progress.

#7
Fire Chief notes approx salary figure of \$9,560 to bring account to level funding. Due to one man on sick leave, one man on job injury and one man returning from injury. Still has 11 weeks with vacations and two holidays.

P. Helmreich thanks the Chief for his additional information regarding his Department.

Expenses - \$5,970. Apparatus and maintenance of apparatus. Solving the problem of constant air supply to the trucks to keep up pressure. Pumps costs \$1400. Trucks will not roll until pressure is met. Three lines were needed. Overspent \$3300.

Figures may be changed. Request update of figure changes. P. Helmreich notes the need for fiscal planning of budgets. The Finance Committee will in future years request tighter control of their budgets.

P. Helmreich notes no reply received from Town Counsel regarding Board of Health questions

Meeting dates: Wednesday, April 20, 1988 Wednesday, April 27, 1988 Town Meeting, May 2, 1988

P. Helmreich notes the resignation of A. Smith due to appointment to the Historical District Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9 pm until 4-20-88 at approximately 7:30 pm.