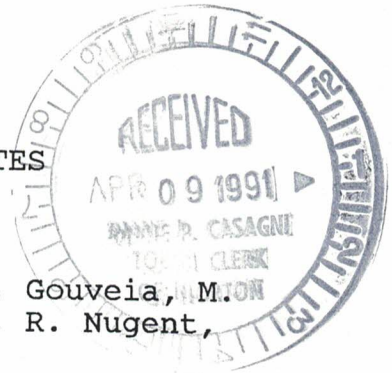


FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
February 20, 1991



Present: M. Brown, J. Desrochers, K. Eagan, W. Gouveia, M. Hackett, P. Helmreich, B. Kimball, C. MacQuown, R. Nugent, D. Ward

Others Present: A. Hiltz, R. Glasser, S. Shields

P. Helmreich called on A. Hiltz to present Library budget.

A. Hiltz handed out to Committee a revised Library budget dated February, 1991. She stated that this revised budget includes medicare and longevity added to the salary line. She also pointed out that the other area of major difference in the revised budget is the interest income from the Balfour Fund.

A. Hiltz further stated there could be some problem areas in the Library budget: telephone expenses were eliminated from fiscal '91 budget (supposed to be picked up by Communications Dept. but weren't) and Library is juggling to absorb costs.

A. Hiltz also noted that the salary line includes 6% pay raises, plus medicare and longevity as previously stated. She also noted that costs for reshelving books has added to the increase in expenses in the books and periodicals line item.

A. Hiltz further discussed library supplies, ABLE assessed fees and centralized cataloging, and audio visual services.

R. Glasser stated that Library is now responsible for snow plowing expenses and water bill. She next discussed conference and dues, the need for continuing education for Library staff, travel, income from fines, and state grants.

A. Hiltz stated that the Library collection is valued between \$750,000 and \$1 million.

Committee - discussion of public fund raising, water charges, snow plowing charges, and recollection of telephone expenses being included in the Communications Dept. budget. The Committee also discussed maintenance costs and the use of interest from the Balfour Fund to defray these costs. Further discussion followed regarding when the Library is expected to open.

P. Helmreich next turned the meeting over to the continuation of the Town of Norton budget.

S. Lombard - handed out draft of Town Meeting Warrant for May and noted that it includes 45 articles. He also handed out a sheet listing town employees and their salaries.

S. Lombard next discussed the city and town override process and the restrictions on what a Town official can say and do. He also stated that the Board of Selectmen can take a position but they cannot campaign. He noted that there will be three questions on the ballot: 1) rubbish collection, 2) "pre-2 1/2" debt exclusion, 3) "post-2 1/2" debt exclusion.

Committee- discussion of impact of override on schools and the issue of timing.

Review of the Town of Norton draft budget continued:

Department 440 (Sewer Division)

S. Lombard - salaries level funded, only additional cost to budget was appropriation for Mansfield Treatment line item which doubled.

Committee - discussion of sewer user fees.

Department 491 (Cemetery)

S. Lombard - salaries level funded.

Committee - discussion of income from perpetual care and amount from Hicks fund.

Department 510 (Board of Health)

S. Lombard - noted \$100 longevity pay for full-time inspector and reduction of clerical help.

Committee - discussion of mileage and new clothing allowance.

Department 522 (Public Health)

S. Lombard - discussed expenses, noted budget cut in half

Committee - no discussion

Department 523 (Attleboro Area Mental Health)

S. Lombard - not funded

Committee - no discussion

Department 541 (Council on Aging)

S. Lombard - budget reduced by \$700, budget may have to be revisited.

Committee - discussion of monies raised from meals on wheels, mileage and allowance.

Department 549 (Handicap Commission)

S. Lombard - funded for \$100

Committee - no discussion



Department 610 (Library)

S. Lombard - Noted that he just received their budget and is recommending that they level fund their budget.

Committee - discussion of unsettled contracts

Department 630 (Recreation)

S. Lombard - funded salary only.

Committee - discussion of funding salary vs expenses and whether budget should be eliminated.

Department 691 (Historic District Commission)

S. Lombard - not funded.

Committee - discussion of whether it is still a Town department

Department 692 (Memorial and Veterans Day)

S. Lombard - changed account number from 710 to 692; budget eliminated.

Committee - no discussion

Department 711 (Maturing Debt)

S. Lombard - correction in bottom line requested = \$1,528.861. Will provide breakdown later.

Committee - no discussion.

Department 750 (Interest)

S. Lombard - interest needed for temporary borrowing for taxes; could be reduced.

Committee - questions on quarterly billing.

Department 820 (State Assessment)

S. Lombard - money Town receives from state; cherry sheet reductions--subtracted from state local aid.

Committee - no discussion.

Department 830 (County Assessment)

S. Lombard - same as State Assessment; will be on the cherry sheet.

Committee - discussion on county retirement figure, medical insurance shortfall and medicare

Department 940 (Miscellaneous)

S. Lombard - Increased gas and fuel due to price increases. Budget level funded.

Committee - discussion of gas and fuel expenses for all departments, workman's compensation, town vehicles.

P. Helmreich - noted that the Water Department would meet next week with the Committee. Stated need for Committee to go through

budget again collectively to recommend changes or recommendations if any to S. Lombard. Reiterated to Committee that they need to start from an agreed upon level.

D. Ward - Motioned to take vote to review Town of Norton budget again

B. Kimball - seconded

Approved: M. Brown, J. Desrochers, K. Eagan, M. Hackett, P. Helmreich, B. Kimball C. MacQuown, R. Nugent, and D. Ward

Opposed: W. Gouveia

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:30 p.m.