Finance Committee Meeting Minutes April 1, 1991

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

- P. Helmreich informed the Committee that he has received the following transfer requests: S. Lombard is requesting a transfer of \$5,000.00 to the Medicare Account. The total estimated amount needed is \$9,000.00. Richard Charette is requesting a transfer of \$50.00 for his contracted longevity. S. Lombard is requesting \$13,269.67 for the Municipal Building Maintenance Account for unanticipated major repairs and \$700.00 for the Computerized Parking Violation System Account to pay a bill amounting to \$1,085.06. The Fire Department requests a transfer of \$11,000 to cover medical services. K. Eagan suggested that these transfers should appear on an article for Special Town Meeting.
- P. Helmreich noted that he received a memo from Philip Collins regarding the implications of the repeal of the Anti-rollback Amendment which prohibits reduction in health care benefits and increases in percentage premiums, deductibles, and co-insurance, unless agreed upon in a collective bargaining agreement.
- P. Helmreich also received a copy of the warrants for the Special Town Meeting from S. Lombard. P. Helmreich noted that S. Lombard feels he has sufficient funds to cover these articles.
- P. Helmreich updated the Committee on the asbestos problem. He noted that the money appropriated at the Town Meeting was for the second removal but there is lots more to do. The Middle School is riddled with asbestos. The new appropriation will complete the minimum amount of asbestos removal needed for basic safety purposes.

Regarding the articles for Special Town Meeting, P. Helmreich noted that \$90,000 is needed for Blue Cross/Blue Shield -- \$57,500 from the Bond Interest Account, \$4,500 from rubbish salaries and \$28,000 from rubbish expense will cover the \$90,000. \$97,500 is needed for the sewer bond because payments from the State are not coming in -- \$40,000 from the Bond Interest Account and \$14,000 from the Temporary Borrowing Interest Account will cover the bond rollover.

P. Helmreich next reported that the Dispatcher for the Council on Aging is retiring. Also, GATRA is willing to pay the bus driver directly so that the Town would not have to up front the money. This will allow the Council on Aging Director to take on the duties of the dispatcher and it will allow the \$3,000 for Self Help to be taken out of that budget rather than the Special Town Meeting Warrant, if the Committee wishes to do it that way.

Motion was moved and seconded that the Finance Committee send to the Town Manager a letter suggesting that the Town Manager and the Board of Selectmen take a firm and hard line in negotiations with regard to the percentage paid for health insurance with the idea of increasing that and to deal especially with the changes in the law that have taken place. In Favor: unanimous

The next order of business: the Town Managers FY 92 Budget:

Department 123 (Town Manager)

510 - Personal Services

Motion voted to recommend \$52,000: In favor. unanimous

570 - Other Charges & Expenses \$1,250.00
Motion moved and seconded to amend figure to \$1,050, reduction in seminars line In favor: 7 (Desrochers, MacQuown, Brown, Nugent, Gouveia, Ward, Kimball) Opposed: 1 (Eagan)
Figure amended to \$1,050.00

<u>Department 131 (Finance Committee)</u> 570 - Other Charges and Expenses

Motion moved and seconded to amend figure to \$5,000.00.

In Favor: unanimous

(Reduce Secretarial costs - \$300; reduce printing - \$579) Figure amended to \$5,000.00

Department 132 (Reserve Funds) \$75,000

Motion moved and seconded to amend to \$50,000. In Favor: 4 (Brown, Eagan, Kimball, MacQuown) Opposed: 5 (Desrochers, Gouveia, Helmreich, Nugent, Ward) Motion defeated.

Motion moved and seconded to recommend \$75,000: In Favor: 5 (Desrochers, Gouveia, Helmreich, Nugent, Ward) Opposed: 4 (Brown, Eagan, Kimball, MacQuown)

Motion to recommend \$75,000 passed

Department 135 (Accounting)

510 - Personal Services

Motion voted to recommend \$58,092.00. In Favor: 6 (Eagan, Gouveia, MacQuown, Nugent, Desrochers, Ward) Opposed: 2 (Kimball, Brown)
Motion to recommend \$58,092.00 passed

520 - Purchases of Services

Motion moved and voted to recommend \$12,500.00.
In Favor: unanimous

570 - Other Charges & Expenses \$2,150.00
Motion moved and seconded to table pending information from S.
Lombard on whether or not seminars are mandatory, how many per year and at what cost. In Favor: unanimous

Department 141 (Assessors) 510 - Personal Services

Motion voted to recommend \$62,945.00. In Favor: 7 (Brown, Desrochers, Eagan, Gouveia, MacQuown, Nugent, Ward) Opposed: 1 (Kimball)
Motion to recommend \$62,945.00 passed

511 - Other Personal Services Motion voted to recommend \$0. In Favor: unanimous

520 - Purchase of Services
Motion voted to recommend \$31,000. In Favor: unanimous

570 Other Charges and Expenses
Motion voted to recommend \$13,675.00. In Favor 7 (Desrochers, MacQuown, Brown, Eagan, Nugent, Gouveia, Ward)
Opposed: 1 (Kimball)
Motion to recommend \$13,675.00 passed

579 - Other Expenses
Motion voted to recommend \$8,200. In Favor: unanimous

Department 147 (Town Collector/Treasurer)
510 Personal Services \$42,000.00
Motion moved and seconded to amend figure to \$31,311.
Motion moved and seconded to table this budget line item.
In Favor: 7 (Kimball, Ward, Nugent, Brown, MacQuown, Desrochers, Eagan) Opposed: 1 (Kimball)
Motion moved and seconded to recommend Article 28. In Favor: 5 (Desrochers, Eagan, Nugent, Gouveia, Kimball) Opposed: 3 (Ward, Brown, MacQuown) Article 28 is recommended.
Motion moved and seconded to take Dept. 147-510 off the table.
In Favor: unanimous.

Vote on amendment to the main motion to recommend a figure of \$37,800. In Favor: 3 (Ward, Desrochers, Nugent) Opposed: 5 (MacQuown, Brown, Eagan, Gouveia, Kimball) Motion defeated. Back to main motion of \$31,311. In Favor: 4 (Eagan, MacQuown, Gouveia, Kimball) Opposed: 4 (Desrochers, Brown, Nugent, Ward) Chairman: opposed. Motion defeated. Motion moved to table this line item until Wednesday, April 3. In Favor: unanimous. Tabled until Wednesday.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:00 p.m.