

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
March 1, 1993



Present: T. DeLuca, J. Desrochers, M. Fiore, W. Gouveia, M. Hackett, P. Helmreich, J. Nicolas, T. Phelan, D. Summerfield, P. Zawasky

Others Present: Acting Town Manager Benton Keene, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Barry Andrews, Members of the Board of Selectmen

Chair Gouveia called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

A motion was moved, seconded and voted to approve the corrected minutes of January 4, 6, 13, and February 1.

Chair Gouveia turned to tonight's main order of business, namely, deliberation of the Town Manager's budget and the Board of Selectmen's Budget. Chair Gouveia called on Acting Town Manager, Benton Keene, Jr.

Regarding the Board of Selectmen's budget, Acting Town Manager Keene recommended cutting this budget by \$13,000.

Discussion followed. Mr. Andrews said that members of the Board of Selectmen are not in agreement regarding the recommended \$13,000 budget cut. Mr. Zanonni requested that the Finance Committee find money for computer software. Mr. Zanonni also recommended delaying budget deliberations for these two budgets until the new Town Manager is in place. Mr. Andrews, speaking as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, asked the Finance Committee to level fund the Board of Selectmen's budget. Mr. Mitchell said that he has given the members of the Board of Selectmen his recommended line-by-line budget cuts and that the Board would vote on his recommendations on Thursday.

Chair Gouveia asked Mr. Andrews what would be the impact of a \$13,000 budget cut. Mr. Andrews said it would mean a reduction of personnel.

Mr. Zanonni responded that the Grants Coordinating position could be eliminated. He said the Town Planner working with the new Town Manager could apply for grants. Mr. Andrews disagreed with eliminating this position.

Chair Gouveia called on Acting Town Manager Keene to review the Town Manager's budget.

Data Processing - 155

Accounting Department needs an upgraded system. Mr. Zanonni added that this account needs an additional \$30,000 - \$40,000.

Conference/Seminars  
P. Helmreich suggested a cut of \$1,000.

Professional Services  
J. Nicolas requested that the Acting Town Manager provide an explanation to the Finance Committee on the expenditure of \$5,486.



Municipal Building - 192  
Acting Town Manager Keene recommended a cut of \$25,000. Mr. Andrews stated that a \$25,000 cut in this budget may result in a part-time Town Hall. He also stated that the building is badly in need of repairs.

Town Reports - 195  
Acting Town Manager Keene recommended a cut of \$1,000.

Postage - 199  
Acting Town Manager Keene recommended a cut of \$1,500.

Salaries & Weights - 244  
Chair Gouveia reminded everyone that this budget could not be cut. State law requires properly calibrated scales.

Street Lights  
This account was increased by \$5,000 last yeear. No discussion.

State Assessment - 820  
Cherry Sheet item, therefore, no figures yet.

County Assessors - 830  
Increase from last year, cannot cut.

Employee Benefits - (910)  
Chair Gouveia stated that the Finance Committee needs to know from the Board of Selectmen if this budget can be cut. If not, must keep the requested amount of \$2,117,000.

Unemployment - 911  
Chair Gouveia stated this account is a revolving account that carries over to next fiscal year.

Miscellaneous - 940  
Acting Town Manager stated that this account includes gasoline, workmen's compensation and insurance premiums. Mr. Keene will provide the Finance Committee with an explanation of the professional services line item.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.