

TOWN OF NORTON

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting
February 28, 2000

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CALL TO ORDER: 7:30pm by Chair, Jim Barrett

Present: Mike Fiore, Jim Barrett, Paul Helmreich, Mike Thomas, Donald Brown,
Jackie Desrochers, Kevin Dunne, Jack Nicolas, Donna Summerfield
Absent: Diane Leroux

MINUTES

Minutes of February 23, 2000 were read and accepted as amended.
Vote: 7 in favor; 2 abstentions (Summerfield & Desrochers)

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Items:

Town Manager, McCabe talked about how rapidly personnel is growing overall. Contracts in some cases are higher than the cost of living. Our health insurance has had a double digit increase.

Police Dept.

Included in the salary figure is \$12,793 for an additional officer, provided we receive additional funding under the COPS grant. Police Chief Finch is looking to promote a patrolman from within and hire a replacement. Should the COPS grant not come through, Chief Finch will not fill the position and the \$12,793 will not be spent. Expenses include a 70% increase in ammunition, the purpose of which is to allow for more training. Equipment includes 10 new shotguns and bullet proof vests.

210 – Police

- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Fiore to move \$1,455,082 for Account 510.
Vote: 7 in favor; 2 abstentions (Thomas & Helmreich)
- Fiore made a motion seconded by Nicolas to move \$150,964 for Account 570.
Vote: Unanimous

Communications

Looking to add 2 new people due to growth in Town.

290 – Communications

- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Thomas to move \$269,300 for Account 510.
Vote: 4 in favor; 1 abstention (Desrochers); 4 opposed (Nicolas, Barrett, Fiore, Dunne)
- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Fiore to amend motion to move \$222,916.
Vote: 4 in favor; 1 abstention (Desrochers); 4 opposed (Summerfield, Barrett, Thomas, Nicolas)
Both motions failed

290 – Communications (cont'd)

- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Nicolas to move \$82,075 for Account 570
Vote: Unanimous

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Budget Voting (cont'd)

911 – Unemployment

- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Thomas to move \$30,000 for Account 570.

Vote: Unanimous

Discussion: Chris McCabe will get back to the Finance Committee regarding building up a reeserve in the Unemployment Account.

940 – Miscellaneous

No voting took place. Chris McCabe will bring in figures for gasoline usage and will also find out if Board members are covered under liability insurance

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:15pm

Next Meeting: March 1, 2000 at 7:30pm

Agenda: Fire Dept.
Recreation Dept.
Highway Dept.

Respectfully Submitted by

Christine McSweeney
Secretary to the Finance Committee