

TOWN OF NORTON
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting
March 25, 2002

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NORTON TOWN CLERK

CALL TO ORDER: 7:30pm by Chair, Paul Helmreich

Present: Paul Helmreich, Donald Brown, Donna Summerfield, Mike Fiore, Jackie Desrochers, Bill Gouveia, John Luti
Absent: Philip Zawasky, Mike Thomas

MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the March 18, 2002 meeting.

Vote: 6 in favor; 1 abstention (Luti)

WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 16 – Recreation Commission

- Cost to complete the project is \$250,000.
- Recreation Commission is attempting to lower costs by applying for federal grants. A reimbursement of 70% might be available.
- Even with 70% reimbursement, cost to the town would be \$75,000.
- Order of Condition has been applied for.
- Town funded money for engineering costs at last year's Town Meeting.
- Under current plan, work must be completed by 2004.

Finance Committee feels the project is worthwhile, however would like to put this Article off until the Fall Town Meeting. At that time, we will have a firm answer to the question of the federal grants, i.e. 70% reimbursement, and, we will know what the Town is to receive in state aid funds.

No action was taken

Article 17 – Water and Sewer Commission

In order to be in compliance with the DEP, the Water Dept. must do quarterly billing as opposed to the present bi-yearly billing system in place. The Water Dept. is looking for \$500,000 to come from the Water Reserve Fund, which currently has an approximate balance of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of installing radio transmitters at every house in Town. These transmitters will fit the wiring system already in place.

No action was taken

Article 18 – Water and Sewer Commission

Replace Well #1 by shutting it down and building another well 50 feet away. This process will not require a new permit. Well #1 has been in use since 1910 and is caving in. The cost for this article is \$250,000.

No action was taken

Article 19 – Water and Sewer Commission

Looking for \$77,000 to fund design money to build a new building/facility next year.

No action was taken

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BUDGET ITEMS

SEWER

Salaries: Fiore made a motion seconded by Brown to recommend \$78,051.

Vote: Unanimous

Expense: Gouveia made a motion seconded by Summerfield to recommend \$337,700.

Vote: Unanimous

Discussion:

- Winneconnett sewer project will be finished in May or June of this year.
- Water Dept. looked into a lockbox system a few years ago and found it not to be cost efficient.
- Moved Clerk's salary to the Water Dept. Budget.

WATER

Salaries: Gouveia made a motion seconded by Brown to recommend \$354,891.

Vote: Unanimous

WATER (cont'd)

Expense: Gouveia made a motion seconded by Fiore to recommend \$550,000.

Vote: Unanimous

OUTSTANDING DEBT

Gouveia made a motion seconded by Fiore to recommend \$212,919

Vote: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, March 27, 2002 @ 7:30pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Christine McSweeney
Secretary Norton Finance Committee