

**Finance Committee Meeting  
October 1, 2007  
7:30 PM  
Municipal Center – Selectmen's Conference Room**

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NORTON TOWN CLERK

**Present:** Acting Chairman, Paul Helmreich; Vice-Chair, Michael Thomas; Pasquale Barletta; Thomas DeLuca; Jackie Desrochers; Wayne Graf; Philip Zawasky; Town Manager, James Purcell.

**Absent:** Robert Bouchard; Chairman, Lee Tarantino.

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to Order at 7:30 pm.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

**A. Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to approve the September 24, 2007 Finance Committee minutes as written. Second by Ms. Desroches. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Zawasky abstaining. **Motion carries.**

**B. Motion** was made by Mr. DeLuca to approve the September 26, 2007 Finance Committee minutes with correction as noted. Second by Mr. Zawasky. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Thomas abstaining. **Motion carries.**

**II. Review/Vote of Town Warrant Articles**

Mr. Purcell reviewed the Articles from the Town Warrant as follows:

**A. Article 1 – Unpaid Bills**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to recommend Article 1 of the Town Warrant. Second by Ms. Desroches. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**B. Article 2 – Capital Improvements**

The FinCom decided to wait to vote on this Article until after the Capital Improvements Committee meets.

**C. Article 3 – Operating Budget Supplements**

Mr. Purcell reviewed a handout he distributed which outlined each departmental request. There are still 3 requests for which the final amount is uncertain. Mr. Purcell said that he would try to have these amounts for the next meeting. The FinCom will wait to vote on this Article until those amounts are provided.

**D. Article 4 – Yelle School funds**

The money to replenish these funds will come from the Stabilization Account.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to recommend Article 4 of the Town Warrant. Second by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**E. Article 5 – Water Surplus**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to recommend Article 5 of the Town Warrant. Second by Mr. Zawasky. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**F. Article 6 – Trains**

The FinCom already voted to support this Article. Mr. Helmreich requested that Mr. Purcell check the chronology of the transfers of funds between the original Train account and the Shpack and ALI accounts.

**G. Article 7 – Lake Winnecunnet**

Mr. DeLuca said he felt that the Conservation Commission continues to request funds for determining what to do with the weed problem in Lake Winnecunnet and has done little to actually get rid of the weeds. Mr. Purcell said that something to consider is whether or not the town will be able to sustain a weed control program. A **motion** was made to recommend Article 7 of the Town Warrant. Second by Ms. Desrochers. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Purcell said that it is unlikely that he would recommend the weed control for FY'09. Mr. Helmreich said another option is to leave the money where it is and possibly transfer it in a few years when the town could be in a better place fiscally. A vote was taken: All opposed to recommending Article 7. **Motion defeated.**

**H. Article 8 – Reservoir**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to recommend Article 8 of the Town Warrant. Second by Ms. Desroches. Vote: All opposed. **Motion defeated unanimously.**

**I. Article 9 – Maple St.**

Mr. Purcell said that this Article will not be ready for the Town Meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup> because a lot of legal work has yet to be completed.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to take no action on Article 9. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**J. Article 10 – Fuller Drive**

Mr. Purcell said that the street has a dry water line and dry hydrant, and that the town is under no obligation to hook up the neighborhood. The Water/Sewer Dept. is accepting the layout and the street but not the water line and hydrant. They said that the water line is unsanitary (without any water in it) and the seals on the pipes can deteriorate after time. However the Planning Board still requires the pipes be put in (by the builder). Mr. Purcell provided the FinCom with a copy of a letter from the Planning Board detailing their vote to recommend the layout of Fuller Drive.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to recommend Article 10 of the Town Warrant. Second by Mr. Zawasky. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**K. Article 11 – Fiscal Town Report by-law**

The Selectmen have yet to vote on this Article. At their next meeting they will be discussing the wording of "seven days prior to the Spring Annual Town Meeting". The FinCom will wait to vote on this Article.

**L. Article 12 – Storm Water Drains**

Mr. Purcell said that the wording in the by-law has all been changed so as to consistently use "Highway Department" instead of "Department of Public Works". Mr. Purcell acknowledged the prior conversation the FinCom had regarding the appeals process. Mr. Purcell stated that the law does not provide for an internal appeal. If a citizen does not meet the terms of a request made to remedy an offense they have committed, then court is the next step.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to recommend Article 12 of the Town Warrant. Second by Mr. Zawasky.

Discussion ensued. The FinCom decided that they would vote on this Article at a later date, after other Boards have discussed and voted on this Article. Mr. Thomas **withdrew his motion.**

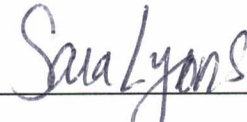
**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 3, 2007 at 7:30pm.

**Adjournment**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Zawasky to adjourn at 8:40pm. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sara Lyons". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary**