

**Finance Committee Meeting**  
**March 30, 2009**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Municipal Center – Selectmen's Conference Room**

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

**Absent:** Robert Bouchard; Lynn Regan.

**RECEIVED**

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to Order at 7:30 pm.

**MAY 29 2009**

**NORTON TOWN CLERK**

**I. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion** was made by Ms. Desrochers to approve the March 25, 2009 Finance Committee minutes as written. Second by Mr. Graf. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**II. New Business**

**Reserve Account Transfer** – a request for \$500.00 for clerical assistance due to an employee absence in the department of the Veteran's Agent.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Zawasky to transfer \$500.00 from the Finance Committee Reserve Fund to account #001-543-510-5116 (Veteran's Agent). Second by Mr. Barletta. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Special Town Meeting Articles** – Mr. Purcell reviewed the warrant article as follows:

*Article 1* – Unpaid bills - \$250 for an employee hospitalization

*Article 2* – Transfer of article balances - may be removed from warrant

*Article 3* - Collective Bargaining Agreements – this article would fund various agreements

*Article 4* – General Operating budget & Water budget – this article would allow the supplement of the town's operating budget and to amend the Water Enterprise budget. Mr. Purcell said that the \$11K shortfall from overtime in the Sewer department will come from the town's operating budget.

Mr. Purcell said that he would separate this article in to 2 separate articles – one for the town's operating budget and one for the Water/ Sewer budget.

*Articles 5 & 6* – Capital Improvements Fund and budget – these articles may be removed from the warrant.

*Article 7* – Water Department Administrative Strategic Plan – Mr. Purcell said that the Water/ Sewer operations have grown very large and that the new administrative structure will help keep track of operations and manage the departments more efficiently. Mr. Purcell said that the Massachusetts Municipal Consulting Group will be conducting the study. It will be headed by Mr. Mark Morris.

Mr. Purcell said that he will request that Mr. Morris address the FinCom concerning this article at an upcoming meeting.

*Article 8* – Lease Agreement for Hill St. landfill – Mr. Purcell said that there is a company who is interested in building 8-10 solar production facilities across the state. This article would allow Norton to request to be a possible location for one of these facilities. The location being considered is the sight of the old Hill Street landfill. Mr. Purcell said that the 25 acre sight could yield the town \$10-15K per year in income. Mr. Tarantino expressed his concern about getting into something before knowing all the restrictions (conservation, legislation) of the agreement.

**Annual Town Meeting Article 4** – Mansfield Ave. Revolving Fund

Ms. Mary Steele, Chairwoman of the Selectmen, addressed the FinCom regarding Article 4. She explained that this article seeks to set up a revolving fund to take in money from L.L. Bean and Norton Kayak, with whom the town has a land lease for their kayak tour businesses. This money would be used for the development of a boat ramp with public access.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend Article 4 in the amount \$15K. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Budget Items**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend \$550.00 for account #162-510 (Elections – Personal Services). Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend \$17,232.00 for account #162-570 (Elections – Charges and Expenditures). Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**III. Other Business**

Mr. Purcell will request that the School Department prepare a *level-services* budget as well as a level-funded budget.

Mr. Purcell said that he will be scheduling various town departments to attend upcoming FinCom meetings to present their budgets.

A discussion was had about the possibility of removing salary ranges for town employees. It was agreed that there needs to be consistency with this because some town employees with contracts have a salary range and some do not.

**Next Meeting**

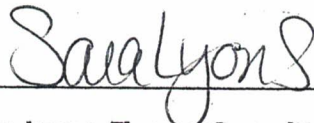
The next meeting is scheduled for April 1, 2009 at 7:30pm.

Dr. Ansay and the school committee will be in attendance for the Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Adjournment**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Zawasky to adjourn at 8:35 pm. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary