

Finance Committee Meeting
April 22, 2009
7:30 PM
Municipal Center – Selectmen's Conference Room

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

Absent: Ms. McFaun; Mr. Tarantino.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to Order at 7:40 pm.

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NORTON TOWN CLERK

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Helmreich to approve the April 15, 2009 Finance Committee minutes as amended. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Graf, Ms. Desrochers, and Mr. Zawasky abstaining. **Motion carries.**

II. New Business

A. Mr. Keith Silver, Highway Superintendent, addressed the FinCom regarding the proposed FY10 budget. He said that for the FY09 budget a vacant position in the amount of about \$39K was left vacant. He does not plan to fill it for FY10. Mr. Silver pointed out that the total amount for Personal Service in FY09 was \$516,325 and that the FY10 proposed budget amount for Personal Service is less at \$507,868.96. He informed the FinCom that their union contract terms were agreed upon today with a 2%, 2%, 2% for salaries and the rollback in health benefits that other town employees are taking with a final split of 75/25 by the end of the three-year contract. Mr. Silver also reviewed the almost level-funded FY10 budget for Charges and Expenditures at \$600 more than FY09.

Mr. Silver also spoke about the upcoming ballot question concerning private ways being plowed. He said that if it is voted for, it will be *extremely* expensive for the town and will mean that more money will have to be cut from other areas.

Mr. Purcell pointed out that the ballot question gives the Selectmen the authority to vote on a case-by-case basis for the plowing of private ways.

As a positive, Mr. Helmreich said that if roads are accepted as public ways then the town could add that mileage for use when applying for Chapter 90 funds.

B. Mr. Leon Dumont, Health Agent, readdressed the FinCom regarding the proposed FY10 budget. He provided the committee with a revised budget for FY10. He said that the Board of Health's union contracts have not yet been settled, but the secretary's contracts have but is not reflected in the provided budget. Mr. Dumont said that he feels that if the union employees get a raise (due to negotiations) that his assistant and the Public Health Nurse, who are not union employees, should as well.

C. Capital Improvements – Mr. DeLuca informed the FinCom of items that have been approved by the Capital Improvements Committee for funding:

\$56,000 for 2 Police Cruisers
\$67,665 Ambulance #2
\$52,000 for defibrillators
~~\$31,200~~ for 2nd year of lease for multi-purpose vehicle
\$206,865 total

Of this \$206,865 total, \$113,200 will come from the Capital Imp. Fund and \$93,665 will come from the Ambulance Fund. The present balance in the Capital Improvements Fund is \$575,901, which includes the \$127,499 from the land sale.

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend Article 13 in the total amount of \$206,865, with \$113,200 coming from the Capital Improvements Fund and \$93,865 coming from the Ambulance Fund. Seconded by Mr. Bouchard. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

D. Special Town Meeting Warrant – Mr. Purcell reviewed the new warrant as follows:

Article 1 – Unpaid Bills - \$250, and possibly another \$800 for a legal invoice

Article 2 – Train Fund – may be removed

Article 3 – Collective Bargaining agreements

Article 4 – (Mr. Purcell will explain later)

Article 5 – Water Dept. Administrative Strategic Plan

Article 6 – Lease for Landfill property

III. Old Business

Mr. Purcell informed the FinCom that the Public Works union came to terms on the conditions of their contract today and that the Selectmen just need to ratify it.

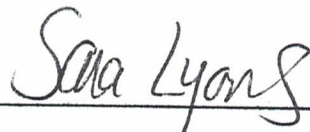
Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2009 at 7:30pm.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Zawasky to adjourn at 8:55 pm. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary