

SEP 25 2009

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Finance Committee Meeting**September 16, 2009****7:30 PM****Municipal Center – Selectmen's Conference Room**

Present: Chairman, Wayne Graf; Vice-Chairman, Thomas DeLuca; Pasquale Barletta; Jackie Desrochers; Paul Helmreich; Lee Tarantino; Town Manager, James Purcell.

Absent: Robert Bouchard; Cheryl McFaun; Lynn Regan; Michael Thomas; Philip Zawasky.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Barletta to approve the August 31, 2009 Finance Committee minutes as written.

Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor, with Ms. Desrochers, Mr. Helmreich, and Mr. Tarantino abstaining.

Motion carries.

II. New Business

Mr. Purcell reviewed the **Fall Town Meeting Warrant** with the FinCom as follows:

Article 1 – Unpaid bills – there are 4 unpaid bills totaling of \$7,761.71. Mr. Purcell discussed the possible agreement that the town may enter into regarding the sanitary landfill site. He said that they are not at the lease stage yet, but that the Selectmen recently voted to submit a letter of intent.

Article 2 – Water Dept. Administrative Strategic Plan – the funding for this will come from the Water Surplus account.

Article 4 – Operating Budget supplements/transfers – a total of \$10,100 supplements, with \$9,800 of that going to the sanitary landfill project. Also, there are 2 transfers - \$100 for office supplies for Finance Committee use, and \$24,250 for Data Processing. Mr. Purcell explained that the present outsourcing of data processing is not working and that it needs full-time attention.

Article 7 – Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement #45 – this is federally mandated.

Article 8 – Affordable Housing Nonprofit Corporation – Habitat For Humanity is seeking land parcels to build upon.

Article 9 – Salary Plan – Initially, Mr. Purcell stated that this article may be withdrawn and that he would like to look at the entire personnel by-law and update it. Upon further discussion, it was pointed out by Mr. Helmreich that if the article was dropped then the Information Technology Director position would not have an official salary range. It was also noted that this article should include the "Custodian – Police Station" position. Mr. Purcell suggested the possibility of either switching Article 9 & 10 or combining them.

Article 10 – Amendment of the "Job Classification" listing – this article may be combined with the previous article.

Article 11 – Wetlands Protection By-law – Ms. Jennifer Carlino, of the Conservation Commission, will address the FinCom concerning this article at the next meeting on Monday, September 21st.

Articles 12 & 13 – acceptance of public ways – Rubin Dr., a new road, and Beverly Lane, a 20+ year-old road.

Article 14 – Restaurant Meal Tax – Selectmen voted last week to remove this article from the warrant.

Article 15 – Hotel Tax

Mr. Purcell stated that the Selectmen voted last week to remove the Restaurant Meal Tax article from the warrant.

Mr. Graf said that he feels strongly that both articles should remain on the warrant in order to allow the townspeople to decide and asked that Mr. Purcell convey his feelings to the Board of Selectmen.

Article 16 – Pino Land Court – will formalize the land taking.

Mr. Helmreich **proposed a resolution** to the sense that the Finance Committee supports the meal tax. Mr. DeLuca seconded the motion. Several members agreed that it is important to let the voters at town meeting decide. Mr. Helmreich said he feels that this is a harmless tax on something that is a discretionary expense.
Vote: **All in favor of the resolution.**

III. Other Business

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to not join the Association of Town Finance Committees. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Mr. Helmreich and Mr. Tarantino both said that they feel it is a good organization and is very beneficial to its members, but can't justify spending the money in the economic situation that the town is in right now. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carries.

Motion was made by Mr. Helmreich to authorize the Chairman, Mr. Wayne Graf, and the Vice-Chairman, Mr. Thomas DeLuca, to pay bills and sign for payroll. Seconded by Mr. Tarantino. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

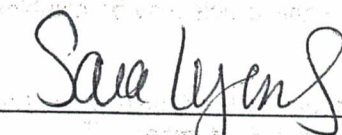
Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2009 at 7:30pm. Ms. Jennifer Carlino, of the Conservation Commission, will address the FinCom regarding the warrant article on Wetland Protections.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Tarantino to adjourn at 8:50 pm. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary