

Finance Committee Meeting

March 10, 2010

7:30 PM

Municipal Center – Selectmen's Conference Room

NORTON TOWN CLERK

APR 09 2010

RECEIVED

Present: Vice-Chairman, Thomas DeLuca; Pasquale Barletta; Jackie Desrochers (late arrival); Michael Flaherty; Paul Helmreich; Cheryl McFaun; Michael Thomas; Lee Tarantino; Philip Zawasky.

Absent: Robert Bouchard; Wayne Graf.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Tarantino to approve the March 3, 2010 Finance Committee minutes as amended.

Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor, with Ms. Desrochers, Ms. McFaun, and Mr. Zawasky abstaining.

Motion carries.

Motion was made by Mr. Thomas to approve the March 8, 2010 Finance Committee minutes as amended.

Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Zawasky abstaining. **Motion carries.**

II. New Business

Town Meeting Warrant Articles –

Mr. Gabriel, Town Planner, discussed various warrant articles as follows:

Article 3 – Rubin Drive – Mr. Gabriel said that the Planning Board voted to lay out Rubin Drive for acceptance. He mentioned that this had been on the fall Town Meeting warrant and did not pass because of discussion brought up about the possibility of street trees dying and not being replaced. Mr. Gabriel said that there is an account with \$2,500 left for replacement of trees if needed.

Article 31 – Zoning By-law, Commercial/Industrial special permits – Mr. Gabriel noted that this proposed by-law change will be in another section of the by-law, not in the definitions sections as worded in the warrant. The Planning Board intends to make it clear at Town Meeting that the 10,000 ft. requirement is a cumulative amount. Therefore if someone wants to build 2 buildings with a total square footage is more than 10,000 then they would still need a special permit.

Article 32 – Zoning By-law, Water Resource Protection District - This article will amend the existing by-law to meet requirements put forth by the DEP. As is, the by-law is out of compliance with DEP requirements.

Ms. Jennifer Carlino, Conservation Agent, and Mr. Julian Kadish and Mr. Ronald O'Reilly of the Conservation Commission, addressed the FinCom regarding **Article 33, Wetlands Protection By-Law**. Ms. Carlino mentioned that the ConCom has been having meetings on this by-law since December and that they have sent out invitations to specific people whom they know had concerns about the new proposed by-law. She said that they did not have many people attend the meetings.

Ms. Carlino provided the FinCom with an outline of the specific changes to the bylaw made to date. These changes include adding an exemption for existing structures (a "grand-fathering clause"). Also it was stated that the ConCom is not finished making the revisions and that they plan to continue at upcoming meetings on 3/22, 4/12, 4/26, as well as 2 additional dates. Ms. Carlino said that she hopes that the final product is more concise, but noted that some of the length is due to including less technical language to make it easier for the townspeople to read and understand.

Mr. Henry explained that even if the by-law were to be passed at Town Meeting, the regulations that enforce the by-law would then need to be passed on their own. Mr. Helmreich stated that the by-law gives the authorization to write the regulations, and that at Town Meeting, the town will not be voting on the actual regulations, just the authorization to write them. He said he feels that some people may have a problem with this.

Ms. Carlino said that she feels that the majority of the revised (proposed) regulations should be completed before the night of Town Meeting. She said that as updates are made they are put on the ConCom's website. She also said that a paper copy of these updates is available in the office of the Conservation Commission. Mr. Kadish said that the average homeowner will continue to be unaffected by the changes. Ms. Carlino said that the intent of this bylaw is not to stop development. Mr. Helmreich suggested that the ConCom provide voters with an outline of changes to the by-law on the night of Town Meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 15, 2010 at 7:30pm. Dr. Ansay and Mr. Kevin O'Neil will be in attendance to discuss a couple of warrant articles.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Zawasky to adjourn at 8:15 pm. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: Unanimous.
Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____

Sara Lyons

Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary