

Finance Committee Meeting
March 28, 2011
7:30 PM
Municipal Center – Selectmen’s Conference Room

Present: Chair, Thomas DeLuca; Vice-Chair, Paul Helmreich; Michael Flaherty; Brett Franklin; Michael Thomas; Lee Tarantino; Wayne Graf.
Also present: Town Manager, Michael Yunits.

Absent: Robert Camp; Jackie Desrochers; William Rotondi.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Helmreich to approve the March 23, 2011 Finance Committee minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

II. New Business

Mr. Yunits reviewed the proposed FY12 town government budget for the members of the Finance Committee as follows:

Estimated Revenues and Expenditures –

In reviewing the Estimated Revenues and Expenditures for FY12, Mr. Yunits pointed out that the Total Operating Expense is \$47,225,256. He noted that New Growth has dropped \$90K, but the total tax to be raised and appropriated is \$27,411,467, which is an increase of \$904,473. He also said that the State Aid numbers are based on the Governor’s budget and that the numbers very well may change as the final numbers are available. Mr. Yunits said that the operating total for General Government is \$10,196,509 and for Schools is \$22,362,218. He noted that the School budget reflects a \$178K increase over FY11 due to contractual step raises.

This FY12 budget includes the use of \$366,252 of Free Cash.

Discussion on the Use of Free Cash –

Mr. Tarantino said that he would rather pull all of the \$366,252 of Free Cash out of this budget and run a deficit of that much. He reiterated the hazard of using Free Cash for recurring budget items. A lengthy discussion was had on the uses of Free Cash. Mr. DeLuca suggested taking the town manager’s proposed FY12 budget as is, including the \$366,252 in Free Cash, and then the committee going line-by-line and looking at where that \$366K+ is being used.

Motion was made by Mr. Thomas to accept the Town Manager’s budget as presented with intention of making changes if necessary. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: All in favor with the exception of Mr. Tarantino who voted opposed. **Motion carries.**

Fixed and Shared Expenses –

Mr. Yunits pointed out on the total for Fixed and Shared Expenses for FY12 is \$10,653,981. Mr. Yunits said that presently there may be a surplus in the Highway Department fuel account. He said he would check and report that information back to the FinCom. Mr. Helmreich requested that Mr. Yunits provide the FinCom with a Debt Schedule.

Department Budgets for FY12 –

Selectmen (Account #122) – Mr. Yunits noted a slight salary increase for the secretary for the Selectmen. Mr. Tarantino pointed out that many line items in this department haven’t been expended and he suggested a decrease in amounts for the funding of these line items.

Town Manager (Account #123) – Additional funding has been included for the Treasurer/Collector to join a professional organization. Mr. Helmreich said that he feels that it should be a part of the Treasurer/Collector's budget, not the Town Manager's.

Finance Committee (Account #131) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to recommend \$4,050 for account #131. Seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Finance Committee Reserve (Account #132) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend \$150,000 for account #132. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Web Committee (Account #156) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend \$0 for account #156. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Legal Services (Account #151) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend \$90,000 for account #151. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Zoning Board of Appeals (Account #177) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend \$300 for account #177. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

SE Reg. Plan & Econ (Account #176) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend \$2,914 for account #176. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Industrial Dev. Committee (Account #182) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend \$0 for account #182. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Town Report (Account #195) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend \$3,000 for account #195. Seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Tree Warden (Account #294) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Graf to recommend \$2,000 for account #294. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Sealer of Weights (Account #244) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend \$2,000 for account #244. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Tax Title Foreclosure (Account #158) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend \$40,000 for account #158. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

SE Reg. School (Account #306) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Graf to recommend \$1,098,468 for account #306. Seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Snow & Ice (Account #423) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to recommend \$80,000 for account #423. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Street Lighting (Account #425) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to recommend \$105,000 for account #425. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Sanitary Landfill (Account #438) – Mr. Yunits said that he would check, and report back to the FinCom, if there are any expenses involved with the landfill.

Historical Commission (Account #691) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend \$300 for account #691. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Historical District Committee (Account #693) – **Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend \$100 for account #693. Seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

III. Old Business

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for March 30, 2011 at 7:30pm.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Graf to adjourn at 9:20 pm. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Documents Referenced: Minutes of March 23, 2011
Estimated Revenues and Expenditures worksheet
Town's Operating Budget books

Respectfully Submitted by:

Tom DeLuca, Finance Committee Chair

Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary