

**Finance Committee Meeting**  
**April 1, 2013**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Municipal Center – Selectmen’s Conference Room**

**Present:** Chair, Lee Tarantino; Vice-Chair, Michael Flaherty; Peter Carignan; Thomas DeLuca; Jackie Desrochers (late arrival); Richard Dorney; Stephen Evans; Paul Helmreich; William Rotondi.  
Also present: Town Manager, Michael Yunits.

**Absent:** Michael Thomas.

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to approve the March 27, 2013 Finance Committee minutes as amended. Seconded by Ms. Desrochers. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**II. New Business**

**Public Hearing –**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Flaherty to hold the Public Hearing on the FY14 budget on April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 pm. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**III. Old Business**

**#610 Library Budget –**

Ms. Lee Parker, Head Librarian, and Mr. Brian Stalters, Board Member, addressed the FinCom regarding the proposed FY14 budget. Ms. Parker provided a handout to the FinCom members outlining the value of the Norton Public Library. This “Value of Services” is provided by the Massachusetts Library Association and totaled \$1,607,946. She also noted that, since being recertified in December, borrowing, new cards, and visitors have increased significantly.

Ms. Parker said that the library is currently open enough hours (40 per week) for it to stay at minimum certification, but would like to see the hours increased (to 50 hours per week) in order to receive full certification. The current recommended budget of \$345K will allow for the library to remain open 40 hours per week.

If funds became available, Ms. Parker said that she would like to see the library set up a SmartPay system, which takes credit/debit cards, to collect fines and donations, etc. She stated that some libraries have seen up to a 70% growth in collection of such fees, etc. by using SmartPay.

**#60-440 Sewer –**

Ms. Diane McElligot, Water/Sewer Commission member, addressed the FinCom regarding the Sewer Enterprise Fund. She informed members that at the W/S hearing, the rate increase was approved, so anticipated Sewer receipts would increase from \$802,219 to \$836,314. She noted that the Capacity Fees are being reduced by \$111,242 (\$100K of which is the Campanelli Company) for a total of \$112,475.

The new grand total is \$1,229,751 for Anticipated Revenue and \$1,043,957 for Expenditures (which is unchanged). The difference of these 2 totals is \$185,794, which would go into Reserves.

Mr. Yunits cautioned the FinCom on voting on recommending the APN, which is \$133K, until it is signed. Ms. McElligot said that if the APN is not signed then it would have to be taken from Reserves. Ms. McElligot said that the final meeting on the tri-town agreement should be in one week, on April 8<sup>th</sup>.

**#61-450 Water –**

Ms. McElligot also reviewed the Water Enterprise Fund for FY14. She stated that the Expenses portion of the budget has not changed. She explained that the anticipated Revenues portion, like the Sewer, would increase

because of the increase in rates. This amount would now be \$2,242,652. The Capital Receipts would also increase because of the rate increase and would be \$559,942. Lease Revenue would remain at \$268,000, Interest Earned would remain at \$11,992, and Miscellaneous Revenue would stay at \$119,857. The new total would be \$3,202,443.

Mr. DeLuca questioned why there is an extra \$20K budgeted in for the position of the new W/S Superintendent. Ms. McElligot explained that some of the funds would be for the payout and some would fund the overlap for training time for the new Superintendent while the current Superintendent is still there.

#### **IV. Announcements**

Mr. Tarantino informed members of the following Association of Town Finance Committees workshops, as follows: May 2<sup>nd</sup> – Legislative Budget Update; May 9<sup>th</sup> – Regionalism; May 16<sup>th</sup> – Capital Planning. He asked that anyone interested in attending let him know.

#### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2013 at 7:30 pm. Mr. DeLuca asked that Mr. Yunits invite Mr. Tim Giblin (Select Board's liaison to the Veterans) to speak on the Veteran's budget.

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion** was made by Mr. DeLuca to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: Unanimous.  
**Motion carries.**

**Documents Referenced:** Minutes of March 27, 2013  
Water Anticipated Revenue Sheet  
Sewer Anticipated Revenue Sheet  
Library budget  
Library handout

Respectfully Submitted by:

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**Lee Tarantino, Finance Committee Chair**

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**Date Approved**

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**Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary**