

**Finance Committee Meeting  
February 3, 2014  
7:00 PM  
Municipal Center – Selectmen's Conference Room**

RECEIVED  
NORTON TOWN CLERK

2015 APR 16 P 1:16

**Present:** Chair, Michael Flaherty; Vice-Chair, Peter Carignan; Thomas DeLuca; Jackie Desrochers; Richard Dorney; Michael Fiore; Paul Helmreich.

Also present: Town Manager, Michael Yunits.

**Absent:** Stephen Evans; William Rotondi; Lee Tarantino; Michael Thomas.

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion** was made by Mr. DeLuca to approve the October 7, 2013 Finance Committee minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Carignan and Ms. Desrochers abstaining. **Motion carries.**

**II. New Business**

Mr. Yunits informed the FinCom that all warrant article recommendations need to be submitted by February 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Snow Account:**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to authorize the Chair, Michael Flaherty, to authorize deficit spending for Snow and Ice removal. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Mr. Helmreich said that he would feel most comfortable allowing spending up to the \$200K amount that has already been reserved for this. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles:**

**Article 6** – Conservation Land - Ms. Jennifer Carlino, Conservation Agent, addressed the FinCom regarding Article 6. She explained that this article makes a change to a similar article from the 2012 Fall Town Meeting. The total purchase price of the land is \$275K. She said that the land grant for this article, in the amount of \$146,272, was just recently received. Ms. Carlino stated that she has applied for many other grants, each around \$10K and that the Land Preservation Society would also contribute \$5K. Ms. Carlino said that the maximum amount that the town would need to fund would be \$73,728, and the minimum (if all grants are received) would be \$18,728. Mr. Helmreich noted that the article is written with the amount of \$82,872. Ms. Carlino explained that the article includes that figure because the grant used that figure. She said that the actual figure will be less than that, but is unsure of the amount until the grants come in. She said that she would have the final figure sometime in April. She said this was necessary because the parking lot and sign need to be installed by June 30<sup>th</sup> or the town would lose the \$146K grant, and this would not look good going forward when applying for grants. Ms. Carlino also noted that this 21 acre parcel to be purchased would create an 82 acre land corridor.

**Article 1** – Unpaid Prior Year Bills – Mr. Yunits explained that there is a total of \$1,015 in unpaid legal bills for Kopelman & Paige.

**Motion** was made by Mr. DeLuca to pay \$1,015 for Article 1 from the current legal budget. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Article 2** – Wage and Salary Plan – Mr. DeLuca asked whether these adjustments are better for the Spring Annual Town Meeting as more people attend that meeting and it seems to be a controversial issue. Mr. Yunits said that there are a couple of positions that need to be filled soon and that he would like to see the salary ranges adjusted before then.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend Article 2 as written. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Article 3** – FY14 Operating Budget Supplements – Mr. Yunits explained that the supplements include wages for the Town Manager and Conservation (\$1,625 and \$1,132, respectively), Snow Removal expense of \$50,208, and Assessment Shortfalls for Southeastern Regional High School and Bristol County Agricultural High School (\$270 and \$6,623, respectively). The total of \$59,858 would come from Free Cash.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend Article 3 with a total of \$59,858 coming from Free Cash to the following departments: \$1,625 to Town Manager wages, \$1,132 to Conservation wages, \$50,208 to Snow Removal expense, \$270 to Southeastern Regional High School, and \$6,623 to Bristol County Agricultural High School. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Articles 4 and 5 - Mr. Yunits informed the FinCom that the representatives from both OMNI and Penske, both of who are requesting a TIF from the town, will be in attendance at the February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, to explain their requests in further detail.

### III. Old Business

Old business was not conducted at this meeting.

### Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2014 at 7:00 pm.

### Adjournment

**Motion** was made by Mr. DeLuca to adjourn at 7:30 pm. Seconded by Mr. Carignan. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

### **Documents Referenced:**

Minutes of October 7, 2013  
Special Town Meeting warrant draft

Respectfully Submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Flaherty, Finance Committee Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary

2/12/14  
Date Approved