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Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2019

1. 6:26 p.m. Call to Order

The March 25, 2019 meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the High School Cafeteria and was called to order at 6:26 P.M., by Mr. William Rotondi, Chairman. Members present: Mr. Stephen Evans, Ms. Bonnie Yezukevich, Mr. Aaron Smith, Mr. Paul Helmreich, and Mr. Walter Eykel

Also in attendance was Mr. Mike Yunits, Town Manager, Mr. William Gouveia, Town Moderator.

Absent were: Ms. Aimee Sawyer, Mr. Tom DeLuca, Mr. Peter Carignan, and Mr. Michael Fiore.

Mr. Richard Dorney arrived late.

2. Mr. Yunits presented Mr. Matt Gains, representing Kelly Gallagher and other abutters of the Bay Road solar farm project.

Mr. Gains presented the revision to the petition proposed by the abutters. The intention of the changes was to restore original text that was erroneously included in the original petition that would have removed text protecting homeowners. The original petition was recently reviewed by and approved by, the Board of Selectman, Planning Board and Finance Committee.

Mr. Gouveia spoke regarding procedural issues addressed by the Planning Board.

The Planning Board voted last night to approve the amendment to the petition. Mr. Yunits confirmed their vote and approval.

Mr. Smith asked for clarification. Response: protection of residents with respect to future solar projects.

Mr. Gouveia explained that this is a new motion. The Finance Committee will need a motion to reconsider, and then a motion to vote on the new petition.

3. A motion was made by Mr. Helmreich to reconsider Article 1 of the April 17 town meeting, seconded by Mr. Smith. This motion passed unanimously.
4. Mr. Helmreich moved to recommend approving the revised article as presented by Mr. Gains with language changes submitted by the petitioners. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith. Mr. Helmreich noted that what will be moved is NOT what is in the printed warrant. Mr. Yunits explained that the Planning Board vice-chair will explain the motion to the Town Meeting.
Mr. Gouveia explained his plan for presenting the new language to the Town Meeting. This motion passed unanimously.
5. 6:45 pm, Mr. Rick Dorney joined the meeting.
6. A discussion ensued regarding the workings of the Finance Committee and Board of Selectman and the town budget and government issues. (unrelated to issues of tonight's Town Meeting)
7. Ms. Yezukevich requested review of her meeting minutes. The Committee decided to postpone approval of the minutes until the next meeting.
8. Ongoing discussion included Mr. Yunits confirming that the School Committee budget would be raised 3.9% this year instead of the original 3.5%. This amount would help to cover special-education mandates.
9. Mr. Evans inquired whether there were any special-need students involved in the school choice program. The response was: yes.
10. 6:55pm Mr. Helmreich moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Evans. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by: Walter Eykel

Minutes Approved by Committee on: 4/22/19

Signature: William G. Rotondo