

Finance Committee Meeting
August 31, 2011
7:30 PM
Municipal Center – Selectmen’s Conference Room

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

Absent: Robert Camp; Michael Thomas.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Ms. Desrochers to approve the July 13, 2011 Finance Committee minutes as amended. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Graf and Mr. Franklin abstaining. **Motion carries.**

II. New Business

Committee Reorganization -

Chair of the Finance Committee:

Mr. Tarantino nominated Mr. Helmreich for Chairman. Seconded by Mr. Flaherty.

Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Helmreich abstaining, for Mr. Helmreich to take on the position of Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Mr. Helmreich thanked Mr. DeLuca for his year of service as Chair.

Vice-Chair of the Finance Committee:

Mr. DeLuca nominated Mr. Tarantino for Vice-Chairman. Seconded by Mr. Graf.

Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Tarantino abstaining, for Mr. Tarantino to take on the position of Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Authorization to Pay Bills –

The Finance Committee voted unanimously to have Chairman, Paul Helmreich, or Vice-Chairman, Lee Tarantino, or Town Manager, Michael Yunits in the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, as the authorized signatures for payment of all Norton Finance Committee bills and payroll. Each of the present members signed a paper indicating their authorization which will be on file with the Town Accountant.

Fall Town Meeting Warrant –

Mr. Yunits presented the FinCom members with a draft warrant and notified them that town meeting would take place on October 12, 2011 at the Middle School as opposed to the Yelle School where it normally takes place. The floor in the Yelle School is currently being replaced.

Article 4 – Sick Leave Buy-backs - \$173,448 – Mr. Yunits said that the Chartley fire station has been closed and will continue to be closed until further notice to keep costs down. This would help fund this article.

Mr. Yunits pointed out that there are some Capital Improvements articles on the warrant as well as supplementals. He said that he would have representatives from the Library come to speak to the FinCom regarding their request for the additional funding of \$16,413 that would allow them to apply for recertification. This recertification would make the library eligible for the \$17,590 in state aid.

Mr. Helmreich added that the library would also need to be open 40 hours per week to regain certification. The library would need to follow these guidelines for a year before applying for recertification.

Mr. DeLuca raised the question of what would happen for FY13 if the library received this requested funding.

Mr. Yunits said that he has requested that the library provide this information in writing for the FinCom.

It was noted that Ms. Lauren Goldberg, town counsel, would be reviewing the warrant and would provide feedback on the articles.

Mr. Yunits said that he would ask the Board of Selectmen if they are planning on having a Special Town Meeting as well.

Local Receipts –

Mr. Yunits provided the FinCom with a Recap of Local Receipts and pointed out that the total amount for local receipts for FY11 was \$776,426. Mr. Yunits noted that \$200,000 of that is from Sewer fees, leaving a balance of \$576,426. He said that it is anticipated that approximately \$400K of that would be used and that the anticipated Free Cash amount would be \$176,426.

III. Other Business

Mr. Helmreich informed the committee that the School Building Committee has hired a Construction Manager At Risk and will be holding an open session as an informational update on the project, on Tuesday, September 27th in the High School auditorium.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2011 at 7:30pm.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Graf to adjourn at 8:05 pm. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Documents Referenced: Minutes of July 13, 2011
Payment of Bills sign sheet
Fall Town Meeting warrant
Recap of Local Receipts

Respectfully Submitted by:

Paul Helmreich, Finance Committee Chair

Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary