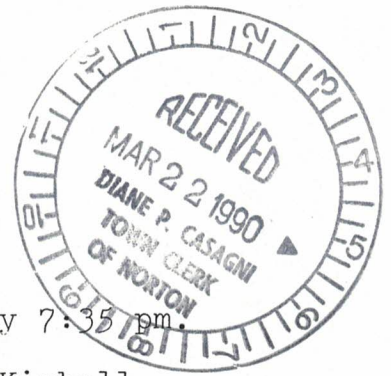


Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
February 28, 1990



The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:35 pm.

Present: M. Brown, K. Eagan, P. Helmreich, B. Kimball,
C. MacQuown, R. Nugent, D. Ward

Veteran's Benefits

Transfer request for \$15,000 to account #543-579

D. Charette notes balance in account currently \$15,682.

The Town appropriated \$65,000 which was reduced by Executive Secretary from request.

D. Charette notes since July the department has taken on 25 new clients. One client in the hospital without insurance and the Veteran's Agent will need to pay bill at rates set by the Rate Setting Commission usually approx 65%.

For clients with insurance the Blue Cross rates increase as of July 1st of \$30 per person.

Currently spending \$6,500 per month of which \$1,000 is medications.

Discussion on referring clients to other agencies.

Review of Finance Committee reserves and pending requests.

B. Nugent suggests transfer of lower figure due to the amount of requests for funds.

D. Charette notes unpredictable costs. He also notes that the last reimbursement that the Town received was for December 1988.

D. Ward moves \$10,00 transfer to the Veteran's Benefit account from the Finance Committee Reserve.

P. Helmreich seconds

Unanimous

B. Nugent notes transfer request from the Highway Department for Snow removal costs.

Discussion.

Consensus - no need for hearing but will need transfer request form filled out.

P. Helmreich notes that the Town can deficit spend

B. Nugent questions holding until end of year to see what is needed.

Discussion

B. Nugent notes receipt of response regarding level funded budget from the Cemetery Department.

B. Nugent notes receipt of a copy of S. Lombard's budget worksheet.

B. Nugent notes unable to contact Personnel Board chairman regarding salary recommendations.

B. Nugent notes process of budget deliberations and keeping the same services to the Town's people. Then another review once figures are known to keep within funds available.

Moderator's Salary

P. Helmreich moves Zero

C. MacQuown seconds

P. Helmreich notes token area, not necessary.

B. Nugent notes Moderator does not take advantage of Health issue.

B. Kimball questions 'compensations' per State definition.

Unanimous

Moderator's Expense

B. Kimball moves \$100

K. Eagan seconds

P. Helmreich notes only asked for \$50 and motion defeats budget cutting process.

P. Helmreich moves to amend to \$50

D. Ward seconds

Unanimous

Selectmen's Salaries

C. MacQuown moves Zero

K. Eagan seconds

C. MacQuown notes health reimbursements.

B. Kimball notes expenses incurred.

B. Nugent asks how members feel about taking away insurance.

B. Kimball notes option to stand at ATM.

P. Helmreich questions if the Selectman position should be without a stipend.

B. Kimball questions policy on who can receive benefits.

Unanimous

Selectmen's Office Salaries

M. Brown moves \$27,213

C. MacQuown seconds

Discussion of grant coordinator position.

P. Helmreich suggests a 5% increase for nonunion personnel and notes union personnel wage increases. He feels that 5% is fair in terms of the economy and may be unfair in comparison.

M. Brown notes no State grants and Federal funding available to apply for. She feels Town Manager would be able to perform these duties.

P. Helmreich notes compliance work for grants already received.

C. MacQuown notes Town now has a Town Planner and a Town Manager.

B. Nugent notes the amount of funds that the position has brought to the Town.

D. Ward notes meter grant work that is currently being done.

B. Kimball amends to \$40,152 (5% increase)
D. Ward seconds
In favor: Kimball, Ward, Helmreich, Eagan
Opposed: MacQuown, Brown

Computerized Parking Violation System
P. Helmreich moves \$1,000
K. Eagan seconds
Discussion of persuing funds
Unanimous

Selectmen's Office Expense
P. Helmreich moves \$4,700
K. Eagan seconds
Discussion
P. Helmreich notes his sense is that all expenses have been
really held level.
B. Kimball notes reduction is added back under Town Manager's
expenses.
Discussion of conferences.
In favor: Kimball, Ward, Helmreich, Eagan, MacQuown
Opposed: Brown

Selectmen's Capital Outlay
B. Kimball moves Zero
Seconded
Unanimous

Town Manager's Salary
Discussion
D. Ward moves \$58,000
K. Eagan seconds
B. Kimball notes his thoughts of hiring the Town Manager and
the Finance Committee lack of input regarding hire and salary.
B. Kimball moves to amend to \$52,000 (yearly salary, middle of range)
C. MacQuown seconds
Discussion on contract/agreement with Town Manager.
P. Helmreich notes Town Manager Screening Committee established
range of \$42,000 - 58,000. He also notes the Selectmen's
right to choose Town Manager and set a salary.
Reading of the Charter.
Unanimous

Town Manager's expenses
P. Helmreich moves \$5,879
D. Ward seconds
Unanimous

Finance Committee expenses
P. Helmreich moves \$5,879
D. Ward seconds
Unanimous

Finance Committee Reserve
P. Helmreich moves \$100,000
D. Ward seconds
B. Kimball notes tight fiscal year and the funds not available
for transfers will force departments to have better control
on their budgets or they will have to go to Town Meeting.
B. Kimball notes the Finance Committee's responsibilities to
the Town's people.

B. Kimball moves to amend to \$50,000
C. MacQuown seconds
P. Helmreich notes very tight budgets and tight restrictions
He feels it is not an invitation to the funds and the Committee
should be the watchdog on the Reserve.
M. Brown notes expenditures and notes FAX machine purchase.
She requests Committee to request warrant and copy of bill.
C. MacQuown notes level funded legal expenses and the need
may be higher but also notes that the \$100,000 is there to
be raided.
P. Helmreich notes fiscal irresponsibility if Committee doesn't
place monies in the account and then needs to raise and
appropriate in the middle of year.
B. Nugent notes statute authorization to Finance Committee
to have the funds and to spend as the Committee feels is
necessary.
C. MacQuown withdraws second
B. Kimball withdraws amended motion
In favor: Kimball, Ward, Helmreich, Brown, MacQuown
Opposed: Eagan

Town Accountant's Office Salaries

P. Helmreich moves \$72,826

D. Ward seconds

Unanimous

Annual Audit

P. Helmreich moves \$15,000

K. Eagan seconds

Unanimous

Town Accountant's Office expenses

P. Helmreich moves \$2,150

K. Eagan seconds

Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:05 pm
until 3-5-90 at approximately 7:30 pm.