

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 5, 1990



The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:30 pm.

Present: M. Brown, J. Desrochers, K. Eagan, W. Gouveia,
M. Hackett, E. Hamilton, P. Helmreich, B. Kimball,
C. MacQuown, R. Nugent, D. Ward

S. Lombard notes Town Counsel's opinion regarding employees joining unions.

S. Lombard wishes Committee to grant \$310 to the Town Planner salary account.

S. Lombard notes grievance procedure.

S. Lombard notes contract negotiation process.

P. Helmreich questions transfer vs STM article.

B. Kimball questions negotiations for union members. He feels that the Reserve fund should not be used for this purpose. The STM article would give the town's people their say.

S. Lombard notes that increases given in the Cemetery and Water Department have been absorbed in their budgets.

S. Lombard provides Cherry Sheet.

Local aid - cut approx. 6% & increases in State and Local charges
Shortfall of \$375,000

Review of figures

S. Lombard requests the use of returned local aid to offset budget.

S. Lombard notes that big cuts will be made for next year. He foresees many ballot questions.

W. Gouveia notes that the Town needs to prepare this year and make cuts in the current budget of \$375,000. He feels it is fiscally irresponsible to put cuts off till next year which will only make a case for an override.

K. Eagan questions CLT and Mass Municipal questions.

E. Hamilton questions contingency plan/policy.

S. Lombard notes services that the Town meeting voted for.

C. MacQuown questions a policy from the Selectmen for reductions.

L. Silva notes he feel cannot make cuts/layoffs.

Review of Medical benefits.

M. Hackett notes Bristol County purchase group currently trying to find alternatives.

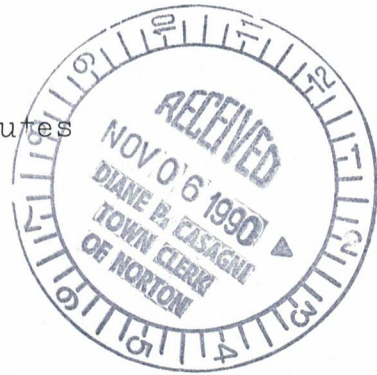
Board of Selectmen support S. Lombard to use State held funds to cover deficit.

S. Lombard feels there is not enough time to review budgets to make responsible cuts.

B. Nugent notes Town can maintain level of services which can be provide with the funds received.

B. Kimball notes that the Finance Committee should have a proposal to let Towns people decide.

C. MacQuown requests Board of Selectmen's policy regarding budget cuts.



ATM

#1

\$833,000

Modify May TM to corrected figure of \$766,000

#2

\$5,449

Seek funding for a part time secretary in the Selectmen's office

#3

Prior year's bills

Medical bills - \$6,500

S. Lombard notes currently fighting Insurance Company.

B. Kimball requests copy

#4

Clerical pool

S. Lombard had a meeting with the clerical union. It would allow work of various offices to be done by other offices. The employees will not be moved from office to office. S. Lombard notes that he has spoken with and mentioned it to Department Heads and Board members.

Discussion of the work needed to be done.

J. Clark questions the kind of services that could be provided to other departments by her staff or for her office without bonded individuals.

R. Hebert notes Middle Management Union is opposed. He feels that the Town Manager should not be allowed to interfere with departments. The departments have already a full work load.

R. Hebert notes voluntary cooperation and the need of the Town Manager to address problem areas.

B. Nugent reads Charter of Town Manager's rights and duties.

W. Gouveia notes need to give Town Manager the tools to operate the Town.

B. Kimball requests list of employees to be placed in pool.

#5

To restore elected officials salaries: \$3,650

Board of Selectmen, Board of Assessors, Moderator, Water Commissioners

The Selectmen have not voted on this article.

W. Gouveia requests the Board of Selectmen to withdraw article.

B. Kimball requests Board of Selectmen's votes on all articles before Finance Committee votes to recommend.

#6

New Union with no agreement made yet

Includes Telecommunicator, Veterans Agent, Custodian, Assessors Technician

#7

\$4,000 approx software to computerize ambulance billing.

S. Lombard notes trying to run compatible with current computer system. To be done with current staffing.

S. Lombard notes ambulance receipts account can be used for indirect services.

#10

To reduce figures of previously authorize borrowing.

#25 & #26

Change wording. To conform with Charter.

#27

Update bylaw to bring within law requirements.

Town Meeting voted on the change.



#28

To Change Salary Administration Bylaw to Personnel Bylaw
To conform with Charter

P. Helmreich notes Special Town Meeting warrant to close
9-7-90. Warrant includes:

- Town to accept physical wellness program, lift age for police officers and fire fighters
- Finance Committee article
- Board of Selectmen article to use the received \$375,000 to balance budget
- Town Planner's salary if not recommended by Finance Committee
- Hovercraft trailer \$1,600
- Blue Cross - \$75,000; use of funds received to offset shortfall anticipated \$937,334/yr projected
- Medicare spent \$37,931 in F90, allocated only \$30,000
- Solmonese repair account to transfer back to stabilization

Discussion of Hovercraft

Planning Board request

B. Nugent moves to transfer \$310 to Planning Board salaries from the Finance Committee reserve

K. Eagan seconds

M. Hackett notes no benefit to Town

E. Hamilton notes opposition but realizes legal expenses

In favor - Hamilton

Opposed - Kimball, Ward, MacQuown, Hackett, Eagan, Nugent Brown, Gouveia,

D. Ward moves to place article on special town meeting warrant to allow Finance Committee option to make cuts.

B. Kimball seconds

P. Helmreich notes if town meeting does not vote lump sum then another special town meeting can be requested to work out cuts/reductions.

W. Gouveia notes Finance Committee's job is to give Towns people their options

In favor - Kimball, Ward, Gouveia, Eagan, Nugent, Brown, MacQuown

Opposed - Hamilton, Hackett

W. Gouveia moves that for purposes of reduction of \$375,000 that the Town Manager and School Committee be advised the the Finance Committee requests, in writing, the reductions that would need to be made using a 50/50 split. Request specific cuts and the impacts on the departments of a reduction of \$187,500. Information requested by 9-19-90.

B. Kimball seconds

Unanimous

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P. Helmreich notes agenda for hearings.

P. Helmreich notes State has frozen court costs and costs will be passed back directly to the Towns.

P. Helmreich notes receipt of Town Manager's contract.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11 pm until 9-10-90 at approximately 7:30 pm.

