

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
April 28, 1993

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Present: T. DeLuca, J. Desrochers, M. Fiore, W. Gouveia, P. Helmreich, J. Nicolas, T. Phelan, D. Summerfield, P. Zawasky

Chair Gouveia called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Turning to the main order of business, Chair Gouveia noted that the total Finance Committee recommended cuts to date in the Fiscal 1994 budget come to \$7,313,651. In determining how these cuts compare to the revenue figure and how much more needs to be cut, Chair Gouveia informed the Committee that he believes there has been a mistake in how the Town, the Town Manager and the Finance Committee have been approaching the figures needed to be met. Chair Gouveia said that the mistake basically has to do with how the teachers' pay deferral was applied to last year's budget. The total amount of last year's budget of \$16,665,000 included teachers' pay deferral--it wasn't an additional expense.

Chair Gouveia called upon P. Helmreich for an explanation. P. Helmreich stated that the revenue figure the Finance Committee has been working with is \$17,133,558, S. Lombard's preliminary budget figure. As noted at the Finance Committee Public Hearing, this figure was reduced by \$468,216 for teachers' pay deferral and \$294,556 bringing the total figure to \$16,665,342. P. Helmreich said that the Finance Committee arrived at the right final revenue total. The Committee did not need to go through the exercise of adding in and then subtracting out the teachers' pay deferral.

Chair Gouveia suggested postponing further budget deliberations until the revenue assumptions can be confirmed with the Town Manager.

Chair Gouveia next asked committee members if they would be in favor of a line under each article in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant with the Selectmen's action for or against with no explanation. A motion was moved and seconded to incorporate the selectmen's vote after each article in the Report and Recommendations of the Finance Committee. After a brief discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Next, Chair Gouveia noted that the Finance Committee would hold their meeting with the School Committee on the School Department budget at the School Committee's public hearing on Wednesday, May 12, at the Middle School Cafeteria.

Chair Gouveia called on Mr. Kelly for a response to Chair Gouveia's letter requesting information on the vacant position in the Planning Board Department.

Mr. Kelly stated that the Planning Board unanimously decided to move forward to hire a Town Planner. He stated that the Planning Board should be given the opportunity to hire a professional for \$25,000. Chair Gouveia thanked Mr. Kelly for coming before the Finance Committee with his response.

Chair Gouveia said that he would speak to the Town Manager regarding the pending response from the Selectmen concerning the overexpenditure of the Fire department budget.

Chair Gouveia called on Mr. Lindberg to discuss budget reductions in the Town Manager's Office. Mr. Lindberg discussed grants and the amount of work it takes to put together a grant proposal.

Chair Gouveia next turned to continued discussion of the FY 1994 fiscal budget.

244 - Sealer & Weights

510 - Personal Services

A motion was moved and seconded to recommend \$250.

In Favor: unanimous

570 - Other Charges & Expenses

A motion was moved and seconded to recommend \$125.

In Favor: unanimous

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

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