



## TOWN OF NORTON FINANCE COMMITTEE

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Minutes of the Meeting  
May 8, 1995

MAY 23 1995

NORTON TOWN CLERK

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:35 p.m. by Chair, Jack Nicolas.

**Roll Call:** Jack Nicolas, Chair; Mike Fiore, Vice-Chair; Tim Phelan, Tom Deluca, Michael Thomas, Paul Helmreich, Jackie Desrochers, and Julia Sweet.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On Monday, May 22, 1995, the Finance Committee will hold their public hearing for the Annual Budget Review. The meeting will be held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at 7:30 p.m. Deluca made a motion to run an ad in the Sun Chronicle (within \$75) and Norton Mirror. Seconded by Phelan. Vote: unanimous.

Donna Summerfield arrived at 7:40 p.m.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Town Manager (123) - Fiore moved \$103,557 for account 123-510 Personal Services. Seconded by Deluca. This would give the town manager a base salary of \$62,000. The board of selectmen view this as a correction in the salary range of the position, and not just a wage increase (deferred compensation increased from 4% to 6%). Other changes include an additional \$50/month to his car allowance figure, sick leave changed from 18 days annually to unlimited, and the elimination of the sick leave buy-back clause. The committee discussed these issues to their satisfaction before taking a vote. Vote: 8 in favor and 1 abstention (Summerfield). Fiore moved \$6,800 for account 123-570 Other Charges and Expenses. Seconded by Deluca. The increases in this budget will pay for cellular phone bills, professional organization dues, seminars and conferences and some car allowance expenses. Vote: unanimous.

### Reconsideration of budgets

Fiore made a motion to re-open line item 610-570 Library for reconsideration. Seconded by Helmreich. Vote: unanimous. Helmreich moved to recommend \$205,997 for account 610-570 Other Personal Services. Seconded by Thomas. This budget would include the Internet to access the Able system from home computers. The Dial Pak is also included in this budget but may cost up to \$15,000 so they are seeking some grant funds to fund the rest of the project. Fiore moved an amended figure of \$201,000. Seconded by Sweet. The town manager recommends the \$205,997 number and gave rational reasons for this budget. Vote on amended figure: 2 in favor (Fiore and Nicolas), 6 opposed and 1 abstention (Sweet). Vote on main motion: 5 in favor 3 opposed (Deluca, Fiore, Phelan) and 1 abstention (Nicolas).

Fiore made a motion to re-open line item 433 Rubbish Collection for reconsideration. Seconded by Deluca. Vote: unanimous. Deluca moved account 433-570 Other Charges and Expenses for \$0. Seconded by Phelan. Some committee members expressed their concerns that the program has no chance of breaking even. A representative from the board of selectmen stressed the reasons they felt the program was worth supporting for at least one year. The committee went on to discuss the program until they felt ready to take a vote. Vote on motion of \$0: 3 in favor (Summerfield, Nicolas, Deluca) and 5 opposed. The program will stay with recommended funding at \$350,000.

### NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

Wednesday, May 10, 1995

- Warrant Articles for Annual Town Meeting

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### ADJOURNMENT

Phelan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Helmreich. Vote: unanimous.

*Patricia C. Mello*

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Recording Secretary