



TOWN OF NORTON FINANCE COMMITTEE

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NORTON TOWN CLERK

Minutes of the Meeting
March 11, 1996

CALL TO ORDER: 7:36 p.m. by Chair, Michael Fiore.

Roll Call: Michael Fiore, Chair; Michael Thomas, Vice-Chair; James Barrett, Thomas Deluca, Jackie Desrochers, Paul Helmreich, Jonathan Rowe, and Donna Summerfield. **Absent:** Cornelius Linehan, Christine Meyer and Jack Nicolas.

MINUTES

Thomas made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 26, 1996. Seconded by Desrochers. Vote: 4 in favor and 4 abstentions (Summerfield, Barrett, Deluca and Rowe).

Thomas made a motion to approve the Minutes of March 4, 1996. Seconded by Deluca. Vote: 7 in favor and 1 abstention (Helmreich).

OLD BUSINESS

Special Town Meeting Warrant

Articles 3 & 4: Water/Sewer department. The selectmen and the water/sewer department have met briefly to discuss the renovations of the Barrowsville Fire Station. The selectmen were 2-1 against supporting the Barrowsville Fire Station project. At this time the commissioners will wait to see how the finance committee will vote. They will pursue it at the April meeting but have put it on the annual town meeting warrant just in case it fails.

The water/sewer commissioners are pursuing the project in April because of the Scater Alarm System; they need it to go on-line by August 1, 1996. It is a \$200,000 investment and right now they have no place to put this system. If they install the system in the water department garage then it will cost an additional \$8,500 to move it over to the fire station at a later date. The alarm system has to be up and running in order for the State to give their okay to have well #6 operating and running. (The well will be ready by mid-July.) If the project gets approved at the June town meeting then the renovations will not be done until October. There is \$363,000 in the surplus account at this moment. They have about \$183,000 in other accounts that can be closed or

transferred into the surplus account. Dan Callahan says he feels very comfortable having only \$138,000 left in the surplus account assuming they renovate the building.

NEW BUSINESS

Norton Veterans Memo (dept. 692): there is an increase of \$500 in their budget for next year. The committee would like the veterans agent to come before the board to speak on the changes in this budget.

They have added a new category - 911 Unemployment. We are on a pay as you go system. That balance is currently \$12,380.

Election Registration (162): is up because of the number of elections coming up in FY '97.

Deluca made a motion, seconded by Thomas, to take Articles 3 & 4 off-the-table. Vote: unanimous. The committee discussed this article and the town's plans for the municipal building. The selectmen's main concern is building the school. Helmreich moved to recommend Article 3. Seconded by Deluca. Vote: 2 in favor (Thomas and Summerfield) and 6 opposed. Helmreich moved to recommend Article 4; seconded by Barrett. Vote: 6 opposed and 2 abstentions (Summerfield and Thomas).

Fiore would like someone from the school department to come in to discuss Article 5. Lindberg will be recommending to the selectmen to seek funding to purchase the Jackson property. This way we can include site development costs into the school project.

NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

Monday, March 18, 1996

- School department
- Sealer of Weights and Measures

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

- "Special within the Special" Warrant

Deluca made a motion, seconded by Helmreich, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Patricia C. Mello
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Recording Secretary