



TOWN OF NORTON FINANCE COMMITTEE

RECEIVED

MAY 02 1996

NORTON TOWN CLERK

Minutes of the Meeting April 24, 1996

CALL TO ORDER: 7:43 p.m. by Chair, Michael Fiore.

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

NEW BUSINESS

School Budget

Maureen Gendrolius, School Committee Chairman, presented the FY '97 school budget. The proposed budget of \$12,350,000 is 9.6% higher than FY '96 figures. This includes net school spending. The school committee will be holding their public hearing to discuss the budget on Monday, May 6, 1996, in accordance to the town charter and State law.

Genrolius reviewed each account highlighting any major changes. Administration-School Committee Account 1100006 has an increase of \$10,000 to have a "policy manual" review done. The 2000 series carries the bulk of the budget. Account 2200002 Principals' Offices/Salaries, Clerical is funding a new clerical position at the J.C. Solmonese School. Account 2200316 HS Trav/Grad/Eval. has decreased from \$26,095 to \$13,540 because the evaluation has been completed. Account 2800021 Psychological Services/Salaries, Prof. has been increased to add one new school psychologist. A new custodian will be hired at the middle and high school (Account 4110003) The 7000 series had much of its expenses zeroed out and placed under the 2000 series. This was done in response to State regulations stating if something is a direct service to students then it goes in the 2000 series.

The school department will have an Article on the annual town meeting warrant requesting \$147,000 for the cost of converting the LG. Nourse School from oil to gas heating.

The committee asked a variety of questions regarding the school budget. Questions ranged from "special needs" interests to sports programs. It was suggested that the school committee add a "percent change" column to their worksheet so that it is easier to locate the major changes to the budget. Thomas moved \$12,350,000 for Account 300-571 School Operating Expenses; seconded by Deluca. Vote: unanimous.

MAY 02 1996

NORTON TOWN CLERK

MINUTES

Barrett made a motion to approve the Minutes of April 22, 1996, with corrections. Donna Summerfield was not in attendance at this meeting and should be listed as absent. On page 4 the first line should read parity not parody. Seconded by Deluca. Vote: 8 in favor and 1 abstention (Nicolas).

OLD BUSINESS

IDC Budget (182): The IDC is requesting \$2000 to purchase a laptop computer. The town manager does not support this request. They also want to sponsor planning workshops at a cost of \$1,000 to have a consultant run the workshops. Helmreich moved the IDC budget 182-570 Other Charges and Expenses for \$3,500; seconded by Nicolas. Vote: unanimous.

MISCELLANEOUS

The meeting scheduled for Monday, April 29, 1996 has been canceled due to it being town election night.

NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

- Town Meeting Draft Warrant
- FY '97 Budget Recommendations

ADJOURNMENT

Deluca made a motion, seconded by Nicolas, to adjourn. Vote: unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Patricia C. Mello

Patricia C. Mello
Recording Secretary