



TOWN OF NORTON FINANCE COMMITTEE

RECEIVED

JUL 01 1996

NORTON TOWN CLERK

Minutes of the Meeting May 6, 1996

CALL TO ORDER: 7:34 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 and Donna Summerfield. **Absent:** Cornelius Linehan, Jack Nicolas, and Jonathan Rowe.

MINUTES

Thomas made a motion to approve the Minutes of May 1, 1996. Seconded by Deluca. Vote: unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Town Manager (123): The town manager has negotiated his contract with the selectmen for \$65,720. The PC Specialist is included in the clerical union and has been negotiated for \$22,290, which includes a step increase. The selectmen agreed to a 6% pay increase with deferred compensation by 1 percentage point - for 7%. The town manager will also get an extra week's vacation. The proper total for the town manager's budget is \$110,792. Thomas moved \$110,792 for budget line item 123-510 Personal Services; seconded by Deluca. Vote: unanimous. Thomas moved \$6,920 for 123-570 Other Charges and Expenses; seconded by Barrett. Vote: unanimous.

Treasurer/Collector (147): Deluca made a motion to take Treasurer/Collector (147) "off-the-table"; seconded by Thomas. Vote: unanimous. Thomas read aloud a statement explaining his reasons for abstaining from participating in the discussion and vote on this budget. Deluca moved 147-510 Personal Services for \$47,250; seconded by Desrochers. Helmreich discussed the history of treatment when dealing with this budget and the town clerk's budget. He felt strongly that they should be treated one in the same. The committee discussed level funding these budgets and allowing the collector and clerk to come before town meeting on their own behalf with their recommendations. The chairman supported this \$47,250 figure. Desrochers also expressed her support for the collector's efforts over the years. Vote: 6 in favor and 2 abstentions (Thomas

and Barrett). Deluca moved \$80,507 for 147-511 Other Personal Services; seconded by Helmreich. There are 3 union positions that are not settled yet. Vote: unanimous. Thomas moved 147-570 Other Charges and Expenses for \$32,719; seconded by Helmreich. Vote: unanimous. Helmreich moved \$0 for 147-575 Payroll Services; seconded by Barrett. Vote: unanimous. Helmreich moved \$0 for 147-576 Tax Billing; seconded by Barrett. Vote: unanimous. Helmreich moved \$0 for 147-579 Other Expenses; seconded by Barrett. Vote: unanimous.

The bottom line number for FY '97 is now \$21,235,141.00. The town manager reviewed the budget worksheet and gave some new numbers. Under "Estimated Funding Sources" - Tax Levy amount assumes that they recommend a budget that will use the levy limit.

Capital Improvements Fund has \$594,000 in it; Stabilization Fund has \$404,000. There is \$1,776,000 in unappropriated Free Cash at this point.

The ambulance fund has a balance of \$162,693 through March. It is reasonable to expect another \$45,000 by the end of the fiscal year. Deluca asked how we were doing with collecting more money from the \$12,000 in billing costs for a collection agency.

The committee discussed and asked questions of the town manager for creative ways of saving money and making it untouchable throughout the year for emergency and for debt payment.

The town manager handed out the warrants for the annual town meeting and the special town meeting. He gave a general overview of all the articles in the warrant. The committee decided to invite the water/sewer department, the conservation commission, the IDC and selectmen, and the petitioners to speak on behalf of their articles.

NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA

Wednesday, May 8, 1996

- Fire Department
- Water/Sewer Department

ADJOURNMENT Barrett made a motion, seconded by Summerfield, to adjourn. Vote: unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Patricia C. Mello
Patricia C. Mello
Recording Secretary