



TOWN OF NORTON FINANCE COMMITTEE

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Minutes of the Meeting
May 22, 1996

NORTON TOWN CLERK

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

DeLuca made a motion to re-open Article 1 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant; seconded by Helmreich. Vote: unanimous. Helmreich moved that the finance committee action (total) remain the same but to delete \$73,380 from Stabilization and instead have \$37,000 come from Employee Benefits (01-910-511) and \$36,380 come from the County Retirement Account (01-910-510). Seconded by Deluca. Vote: unanimous.

Water/Sewer Department: Superintendent Dan Callahan made a presentation to the committee showing an architects rendering of the proposed new water/sewer headquarters. Callahan described the building as 3,000 square feet (40'w x 75'd) and brick-faced on three sides. There will be ample parking in front and on the side of the building. The proposed site is behind the Senior Center off of West Main Street. The land perked. The water/sewer department would like to install the new alarm system in the new building. There is a balance of \$373,073.55 in the Water Surplus Account at this time. They are anticipating closing some accounts and getting a return on meter grant money. This will total about \$500,000. The building will cost \$225,000 including furniture and equipment. At this time they have not formally notified the planning board though they have spoken with the town manager.

Selectman Kimball spoke on behalf of the issue and the fact that the selectmen do not know much about this project. The water department just received the plans today. He feels that things are moving too fast on this project, there are too many questions unanswered. He wished he had more time to do this and think it over. It will cost the water department \$450,000 to move into the Barrowsville Station.

DeLuca defended the purchase of the building and going out to bid--rather than doing a study. The building itself would cost about \$200,000 with additional costs for consultants and contingencies. Mr. Baker would be in charge of the construction project.

The selectmen do not feel they are done with the municipal building study. They did not like all the suggestions that were made so they are still involved in the study process. They want to have a plan in place before any thing gets started.

Nicolas made a motion to take Article 14 off the table; seconded by Helmreich. Vote: unanimous. Nicolas made a motion to recommend Article 14 for a sum of \$240,000 (this includes a \$15,000 contingency fund); seconded by Deluca. Vote: unanimous.

Articles 21 & 22 will remain "No Action".

The meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 29, 1996 has been canceled.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, June 3, 1996

- 6:00 p.m. at the Norton High School Library

ADJOURNMENT

DeLuca made a motion, seconded by Helmreich, to adjourn. Vote: unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.



Patricia C. Mello
Recording Secretary