

**TOWN OF NORTON
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Meeting
April 5, 2000

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NORTON TOWN CLERK

CALL TO ORDER: 7:35pm by Chair, Jim Barrett

Present: Mike Fiore, James Barrett, Jack Nicolas, Donald Brown, Jackie Desrochers,
Paul Helmreich,
Absent: Mike Thomas, Donna Summerfield, Kevin Dunne

MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to accept minutes of April 3, 2000. Vote: Unanimous

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing opened at 7:40pm. Chairman Barrett informed attendees that the total budget for FY01 at this point in time is \$31,145,626. This figure represents a 6% increase. School Dept. represents 56.7% of the budget, which is a 10.5% increase in the total School Budget when compared to last year. Barrett also informed the audience that all line items will be reviewed in the next couple of weeks, therefore, information given at this meeting is subject to change. There were no questions or comments raised by attendees. Fiore made a motion seconded by Helmreich to close Public Hearing. Vote: Unanimous. Public Hearing closed at 7:45pm.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES**Article 20**

- Members of the Conservation Committee were present to discuss article. All parcels were acquired by the Town through Tax Title Foreclosures. Four parcels will be managed by the Water Dept. Three parcels will be managed by the Recreation, Conservation, and the Cemetery Departments. Surveys need to be done on all parcels being sub-divided. FinCom suggested maps be available for Town Meeting. Nicolas suggested the motion at Town Meeting should define parcels and what they are going to be used for.
- No action taken

Article 21

- Selectman Rich, Dog Officer Fogerty, and Animal Inspector Plante were present to discuss article. Rich stated he received all negative feedback from survey. However, the committee was informed of a piece of property on Crane St. slated for the Cemetery Dept. that would be ideal for the kennel. It would be placed in the back portion of the property and would not interfere with cemetery expansion. Southeastern Regional School is willing to do contractual work at a \$0 cost for labor. The Town would only have to purchase the supplies. Final figures for this article are not completed. Helmreich suggested the figures be nailed down and presented to the Finance Committee by April 24, 2000, thereby enabling the article to come in with a firm figure. Southeastern is looking to start the project in September 2000 and setting completion for June 2001.
- No action taken

Article 22

- Nicolas made a motion seconded Fiore to recommend. Vote: Unanimous

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES**Article 8**

- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Fiore to recommend. Vote: Unanimous

Article 9

- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Helmreich to recommend. Vote: Unanimous
- Discussion: FinCom suggested the Planning Board attain the appropriate letter from the Zoning Board of Appeals and attach such along with the pages that are referred to in the article for Town Meeting.

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BUDGET VOTING

510 – Health Dept.

- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Fiore to remove from the table. Vote: Unanimous
- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Fiore to move \$85,505 for Acct. 510-510. Vote: Unanimous
- Discussion: Mr. Curry, Mr. Farrington, and Mr. Watson were present to discuss salaries. Health Dept. feels that the State's increase in inspection procedures warrants their proposal to increase hours for the Assistant Agent to 25 hours per week. McCabe stated that neither he nor the Finance Committee has the authority to increase the hours. If union issue is not resolved, Finance Committee cannot do anything beyond 17 hours.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:15pm.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, April 10, 2000 @ 7:30pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Christine McSweeney
Secretary Norton Finance Committee