

# TOWN OF NORTON FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting  
April 10, 2000

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NORTON TOWN CLERK

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:50pm by Chair, Jim Barrett

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

## MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of April 5, 2000. Vote: Unanimous

## SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

### Article 6 – New Police Station

- Charles Thoma of the Police Station Building Committee was present to explain the Committee's request for an additional sum of approximately \$54,000. Mr. Thoma also informed the Finance Committee they were requesting an additional sum of \$13,450 to expand the parking lot.
- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Nicolas to recommend \$52,987.78 to come from Capital Improvements.  
Vote: 5 in favor; 1 abstention (Desrochers)

## FY 01 BUDGET ITEMS

### SENA B EMPLOYEES

#### 123-510 – Town Manager

- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Nicolas to take off the table. Vote: Unanimous
- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Fiore to move \$118,268. Vote: Unanimous

#### 141-510 – Assessors

- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Nicolas to take off the table. Vote: Unanimous
- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Nicolas to move \$100,878. Vote: Unanimous

#### 210-510 – Police

- Fiore made a motion seconded by Nicolas to reconsider. Vote: Unanimous
- Fiore made a motion seconded by Helmreich to move \$1,460,082. Vote: Unanimous

#### 220-510 – Fire

- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Fiore to reconsider. Vote: Unanimous
- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Fiore to move \$1,665,207.  
Vote: 5 in favor; 1 abstention (Desrochers)

#### 241-510 – Inspection

- Fiore made a motion seconded by Desrochers to reconsider. Vote: Unanimous
- Fiore made a motion seconded by Helmreich to move \$115,388. Vote: Unanimous

#### 290-510 – Communications

- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Fiore to take off the table. Vote: Unanimous
- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Fiore to move \$251,769 for the purpose of eliminating 2 additional personnel.
- Helmreich amended motion to move \$302,458 for the purpose of adding 2 more people to personnel.  
Vote: 1 in favor; 4 opposed (Fiore, Barrett, Nicolas, Brown); 1 abstention (Desrochers)  
Motion failed
- Voting on Nicolas motion of \$251,769. 5 in favor; 1 abstention (Desrochers)

#### 292-510 – Dog Officer

- Fiore made a motion seconded by Nicolas to reconsider. Vote: Unanimous
- Fiore made a motion seconded by Nicolas to move \$20,647. Vote: Unanimous

#### 440-510 – Sewer

- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Fiore to reconsider. Vote: Unanimous
- No Action

### **FY01 BUDGET (cont'd)**

#### **543-510 – Veterans**

- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Nicolas to reconsider. Vote: Unanimous
- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Fiore to move \$37,256. Vote: Unanimous

### **FINAL RECONSIDERATION OF ALL BUDGET LINE ITEMS**

The Chair read each line item in order so that any one of them could be reconsidered. Reconsideration was moved on the following items:

#### **290-510 – Communications**

- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Nicolas to reconsider. Vote: Unanimous
- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Helmreich to move \$277,114 to add one person.  
Vote: 2 in favor; 3 opposed (Fiore, Nicolas, Brown); 1 abstention (Desrochers) Motion failed

#### **300 – School**

- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Helmreich to reconsider. Vote: Unanimous
- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Helmreich to move \$17,700,000 for the purpose of adding one teacher for the fourth grade  
Vote: 2 in favor; 4 opposed (Fiore, Barrett, Helmreich, Desrochers) Motion failed
- Discussion: School Dept. has enough in budget to add a teacher if necessary. They have more flexibility than any other department (Barrett). Never seen Finance Committee increase personnel budget for any department without a representative coming to ask for increase (Helmreich). Would like to see this amendment brought up on Town Meeting floor (Desrochers). If School Committee wanted an additional teacher, it would have been in their budget (Fiore).

#### **610 – Library**

- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Helmreich to reconsider. Vote: Unanimous
- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Brown to move \$318,149 for the purpose of eliminating Reference Librarian.  
Vote: 3 in favor; 3 opposed (Fiore, Helmreich, Desrochers). Motion failed

#### **910-510 – Employee Benefits**

- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Fiore to reconsider. Vote: Unanimous
- Nicolas made a motion seconded by Brown to move \$2,338,000. Vote: Unanimous

### **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

#### **Warrant Article**

#### **Article 8 – FY 2001 Operating Budget**

- Helmreich made a motion seconded by Nicolas to raise & appropriate \$31,707,814  
Vote: Unanimous

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Representatives from the Town of Sandwich along with Dr. Demoura will be meeting with the Norton Board of Selectmen on Thursday, April 13, 2000 at 7:30pm in the Selectmen's Meeting Room to discuss Article 16 – Community School.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:45pm  
Next Meeting: April 12, 2000 at 7:30pm

Respectfully Submitted by

Christine McSweeney  
Secretary to the Finance Committee