

Finance Committee Meeting
October 6, 2008
6:00 PM
Yelle School Cafeteria
(Meeting immediately preceding Town Meeting)

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NORTON TOWN CLERK

Present: Chairman, Michael Thomas; Vice-Chair, Wayne Graf; Pasquale Barletta; Robert Bouchard; Thomas DeLuca; Jackie Desrochers; Paul Helmreich; Lee Tarantino; Philip Zawasky; Town Manager, James Purcell.

Absent: Cheryl McFaun; Lynn Regan.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to Order at 6:10 pm.

Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Mr. Thomas reviewed what the FinCom previously discussed and voted on regarding each warrant article.

Article 11 - Motion was made by Mr. Helmreich to reopen Article 11 (Land Swap). Second by Mr. Zawasky. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

After discussing the new information of who the abutters are of the land swap parcels, **Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend Article 11. Second by Mr. Zawasky. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Article 6 - The FinCom read a letter from Mr. Herb Ellison, President of the Board of Directors for the Norton Public Library, discussing how the Library would use an additional \$31,200 if it were to be voted at Town Meeting.

Motion was made by Mr. Tarantino to reconsider Article 6 (Stabilization Fund transfer). Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor, except Mr. Barletta opposed. **Motion carries.**

Mr. Helmreich said that he felt it was not the FinCom's position to tell the Library what to do with the additional money, that he trusted their judgment to use it appropriately.

Mr. Tarantino said he felt that the additional money should provide more open hours of operation for library users.

Mr. DeLuca agreed and pointed out that in looking at the Library's budget, as provided by Mr. Ellison, it shows that 3 librarians are going to essentially be getting a raise because they will be working 5 hours less yet receiving the same salary.

Mr. Barletta pointed out that the Library puts the least amount of strain on the town in the benefits category.

Mr. Helmreich said that this would be restoring \$31K of the \$134K needed.

Mr. Tarantino said he felt that this would be setting a precedent of allowing each town department to set their own hours.

A discussion was had about how most salaried employees work more hours than what they are paid for on paper. Mr. DeLuca said that if the librarians are working 40 hours and not 35, then the budget worksheet should say 40 hours, not 35.

Motion was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend Article 6, as originally done, to raise and appropriate \$31,200 for the purpose of supplementing the Library's operating budget. Vote: In favor – Mr. Thomas, Ms. Desrochers, Mr. Helmreich, Mr. Zawasky, Mr. Bouchard, and Mr. Barletta; Opposed – Mr. Tarantino, Mr. Graf, and Mr. DeLuca.

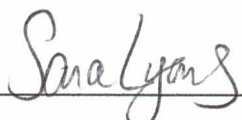
Motion carries.

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca that the FinCom *not* recommend Article 6 if, because of a vote on Article 4, that there isn't \$31,200 to raise and appropriate. Second by Mr. Graf. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Zawasky to adjourn at 6:40 pm. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully Submitted by: _____



Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary