

**Finance Committee Meeting**  
**March 16, 2009**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Municipal Center – Selectmen's Conference Room**

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

**RECEIVED**

**MAY 29 2009**

**Absent:** Cheryl McFaun; Philip Zawasky.

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to Order at 7:50 pm.

**NORTON TOWN CLERK**

**I. Approval of Minutes** (completed at end of meeting)

**Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to approve the March 11, 2009 Finance Committee minutes as amended. Second by Mr. Barletta. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. DeLuca, Ms. Desrochers, and Ms. Regan abstaining. **Motion carries.**

**II. New Business**

**A.** Mr. Purcell reviewed a summary of **Special Revenue Accounts** as follows:

1. *Hicks Fund* - Mr. Purcell said that the trustees of this fund (the Selectmen) have assured him that the entire \$100K balance is available.

2. *Ambulance Receipt Account* - The balance is \$557,689.23. The funds need to be used in support of ambulance operations, etc.

3. *Dog Fund* - The current balance is \$59,784.99, \$5K of which will go to the town's operating budget. Mr. Purcell said that he will be requesting at Town Meeting for funds from the Dog Fund to be transferred to the Dog Officer's salary to fund the dog officer's overtime pay. The income for this fund comes from animal licenses. Mr. Purcell also stated that \$1K of the Dog Officer's salary is in the Board of Health's budget because he is also the animal inspector for the town. In this capacity he is responsible for compiling a report of the condition of the farm animals in town, as well as how many there are and their locations.

4. *Wetlands Protection Fund* - The balance in this account is \$579,729.97. Mr. Purcell provided the FinCom with a copy of the IGR (Informational Guideline Release).

**B.** Mr. Purcell provided the FinCom with a handout outlining the **Water and Sewer Reimbursement Services**. He explained that the Water budget is voted separate from the town's general operating budget. He said that the W/S employees receive their benefits through the town, but that the town charges the Water dept. for these services. Mr. Purcell explained that there are 3 cost methodologies: Actual, Pro Rata/Total Payroll, and Pro Rata/Total Budget. Mr. Purcell reviewed the method of figuring the reimbursement formula for Water and Sewer. Mr. Purcell said that the Water reimbursement amount will most likely be less than the current estimated amount of \$200,000 because of the change in employee benefits.

**C. New Town Warrant** - There have been 2 articles dropped:

1. A zoning article - This concerns the storage of motor vehicles in residential yards. This came about because of a legal matter and counsel had recommended the change. The Selectmen voted to withdraw this article because the wording was far too restrictive.

2. Household Hazardous Waste - There is currently almost \$19K in the account now. The Household Hazardous Waste Day uses under \$10K, so no funds need to be appropriated for this fund this year.

**D. Warrant Articles Votes** -

Article 6 - Historical Commission

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend Article 6 as written. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor.

**Motion carries.**

Article 7 – Board of Health – Composting Bins

**Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend Article 7 as written. Second by Mr. Barletta. Vote: All in favor.  
**Motion carries.**

Article 8 - Highway – Recycling

**Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend Article 8 as written. Second by Mr. Bouchard. Vote: All in favor.  
**Motion carries.**

Article 9 – Fire Dept. – Hazmat

**Motion** was made by Mr. Graf to recommend Article 9 as written. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor.  
**Motion carries.**

**E. Budget Items votes – Fixed and Shared**

**Motion** made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #711-590 (Maturing Principle on Long-Term Debt) in the amount of \$1,658,510.80. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #711-594 (Maturing Debt – Repayment of Temporary Loans) in the amount of \$221,265.00. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #750-590 (Interest on Long Term Debt) in the amount of \$724,183.65. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #750-594 (Interest on Notes) in the amount of \$20,798.91. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #910-510 (Employee Benefits – Personal Service) in the amount of \$1,905,860. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #910-511 (Employee Benefits - Other Personal Services) in the amount of \$6,330,000. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #910-570 (Employee Benefits - Charges and Expenditures) in the amount of \$308,530. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #911-570 (Unemployment – Charges and Expenditures) in the amount of \$130,000. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**  
Mr. Helmreich stated that he feels that this amount will not be enough, but is a fine place to start.

**Motion** made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #940-540 (Miscellaneous – Fuel Expenses) in the amount of \$162,000. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #940-570 (Miscellaneous - Charges and Expenditures) in the amount of \$398,000. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**F. Finance Committee Budget**

The FinCom discussed what the funds from their budget goes towards – primarily the salary for the FinCom secretary, but also printing of the Spring Town Meeting Warrant, and the advertisement for the Public Hearing. Upon review, the FinCom concluded \$2700 would be sufficient.

**Motion** made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend account #131-570 (Finance Committee - Charges and Expenditures) in the amount of \$2,700. Second by Mr. Bouchard. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**



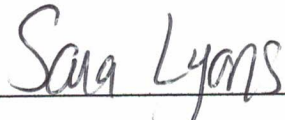
**Next Meeting**

Mr. Purcell intends to invite the Town Planner to discuss the zoning articles on the town warrant.  
The next meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2009 at 7:30pm.

**Adjournment**

**Motion** was made by Mr. DeLuca to adjourn at 9:05 pm. Second by Mr. Graf. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary