

Finance Committee Meeting
April 6, 2009
7:30 PM
Municipal Center – Selectmen's Conference Room

Present: Chairman, Michael Thomas; Vice-Chair, Wayne Graf; Pasquale Barletta; Robert Bouchard; Thomas DeLuca; Cheryl McFaun; Lynn Regan; Lee Tarantino; Philip Zawasky; Town Manager, James Purcell.

Absent: Jackie Desrochers; Paul Helmreich.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to Order at 7:30 pm.

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MAY 29 2009

NORTON TOWN CLERK

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Graf to approve the March 30, 2009 Finance Committee minutes as written. Second by Mr. Bouchard. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

II. New Business

A. Legislature/Town Meeting Date – Mr. Purcell said that he has asked the Selectmen to consider postponing the Town Meeting due to the uncertainty of the amount of Local Aid that the town will be receiving from the State. He suggested addressing everything except the town's Operating budget, the Capital budget, and possibly the Water budget on May 11th, as well as keeping the Special Town Meeting that night as planned. He would then want to schedule another Town Meeting for June 8th to address the town's Operating budget, the Capital budget, and possibly the Water budget. Mr. Purcell said that the Selectmen made the suggestion of postponing everything to June 8th for cost reasons.

Mr. Purcell said that the legislature needs to vote first and then he can see what that means for Norton's budget. He said that if the town loses the \$292K in Local Aid then some people will lose their jobs and he feels it is important to give those individuals time to address the FinCom and Town Manager regarding the possible layoff. Mr. Thomas agreed saying that he thought it might be necessary to have more time to make better decisions regarding the FY10 budget.

B. Chapter 90 (Article 2) –

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend Article 2 in the amount of \$420,484 for Chapter 90. Second by Mr. Zawasky. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

C. FY10 Operating Budget Items

(Note: The following votes are considered preliminary votes and can be reconsidered at any time.)

Conservation Budget – Mr. Purcell noted that there have been reductions for various line items and a slight increase in salaries due to a contractual increase in longevity pay.

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend account #171-510 (Conservation – Personal Service) in the amount of \$90,665. Second by Mr. Zawasky. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend account #171-570 (Conservation – Charges and Expenditures) in the amount of \$10,775. Second by Mr. Zawasky. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Postage –

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend account #199-570 (Postage – Charges and Expenditures) in the amount of \$42,521. Second by Mr. Zawasky. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Inspection – Mr. Purcell said that the Local Inspector position may be one area to consider cutting.

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend account #241-510 (Inspection – Personal Service) in the amount of \$138,553. Second by Mr. Zawasky. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend account #241-570 (Inspection – Charges and Expenditures) in the amount of \$11,200. Second by Mr. Zawasky. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Snow & Ice – This account is being recommended for level-funding at \$80K. Mr. Purcell explained that this budget item is consistently under-funded because of Massachusetts State Law Chapter 44, Section 31D that regulates overspending in this Snow & Ice account.

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend account #423-570 (Snow Removal – Charges and Expenditures) in the amount of \$80K. Second by Mr. Zawasky. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

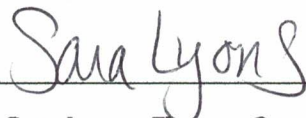
Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2009 at 7:30pm. The school committee and Dr. Ansay, Superintendent, will address the Finance Committee regarding the school FY10 budget.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Zawasky to adjourn at 8:45 pm. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary