

**Finance Committee Meeting  
September 15, 2010  
7:30 PM  
Municipal Center – Selectmen's Conference Room**

**Present:** Chairman, Wayne Graf; Vice-Chairman, Thomas DeLuca; Jackie Desrochers; Michael Flaherty; Brett Franklin; Paul Helmreich; William Rotundi; Michael Thomas; Lee Tarantino; Town Manager, James Purcell.

**Absent:** Cheryl McFaun.

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Helmreich to approve the July 12, 2010 Finance Committee minutes as written. Seconded by Ms. Desrochers. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Graf, Mr. Franklin, and Mr. Rotundi abstaining.

**Motion carries.**

**II. New Business**

Mr. Graf welcomed new members, Mr. William Rotundi and Mr. Brett Franklin.

**Reorganization –**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to open nominations for Chairman of the Finance Committee. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Mr. Thomas nominated Mr. DeLuca for Chairman. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to close nominations. Seconded by Mr. Tarantino. Vote: All in favor.

**Motion carries.**

Vote: All in favor, with Mr. DeLuca abstaining, for Mr. DeLuca to take on the position of Chairman of the Finance Committee.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to open nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Mr. Graf nominated Mr. Helmreich for Vice-Chairman. Seconded by Mr. Thomas.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to close nominations. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Helmreich abstaining, for Mr. Helmreich to take on the position of Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee.

**Town Meeting Warrant articles –**

*Article 4* – Dr. Ansay, Superintendent of Schools, addressed the FinCom regarding Article 4. The article requests the authority to create a Chapter 44 Revolving Fund in order to receive funds from the now dissolved Project Spoke.

The Project Spoke fund has a balance and this article would allow that balance to be transferred for the use of special educational expenses. It is presumed that this would be a one-time article and that the money would be spent in the current school year.

Mr. Purcell said that he spoke with counsel and that they have advised that, because the town of Norton has a charter, a revolving fund can be established at an Annual Town Meeting, not just a Special.

*Article 1 – Unpaid Bills* – Mr. Purcell reviewed the list of unpaid bills for this article, with a total of \$5,301.83, noting that it would be paid from Free Cash.

Mr. Purcell said that the Free Cash amount would be certified for Town Meeting. He said that he anticipates the amount being approximately \$760-\$780K.

*Article 2 – Firefighters Union contract ratification* – Mr. Purcell said that he is anticipating that the negotiations will go into arbitration next week. He said that the 2% raises and the increased employee responsibility for health benefits would pretty much even each other out fiscally. Mr. Purcell said that the town would need to raise money to cover the overtime for FY09 and FY10.

*Article 3 – FY11 Operating Budget Supplements and Transfers* – Mr. Purcell reviewed a handout listing the FY11 Operating Budget supplements, including an expense to fund the search for the new Town Manager, supplements to the Police and Fire salaries to restore some of what was cut, and municipal building repairs, among other items. There are presently many unknown amounts for this article, but Mr. Purcell anticipates the supplements to total approximately \$250K.

Also listed are the 3 transfers from the Dog Fund to the general operating budget, totaling \$8,601.00.

*Article 5 – Highway* – Mr. Purcell explained that this article is still in development and will likely not be ready for Town Meeting.

*Article 6 – Capital Improvements* – new phone system. Mr. Flaherty volunteered to be the new member of the Capital Improvements Committee.

*Article 7 – Capital Improvements* – Mr. Purcell pointed out 3 new requests, and noted that all others are previously rejected requests.

*Article 9 – Personnel Bylaw*

*Article 10 – Petitioned Zoning article* – located near the Chartley Country Store and the train tracks.

*Article 16 – Intermunicipal Agreement* – Mr. Purcell noted that a Town Meeting vote is not required to authorize this agreement, but it may be included for “form sake”.

#### **Payment of Bills authorization -**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to authorize the new Chairman, Mr. DeLuca, and Vice-Chairman, Mr. Helmreich, to pay bills. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

### **III. Old Business**

#### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2010 at 7:30pm.

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to adjourn at 8:55 pm. Seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote: Unanimous.  
**Motion carries.**

**Any documents referenced in the above meeting minutes are attached to the original copy of the minutes and filed together in the Town Clerk’s office.**

Respectfully Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary**