

**Finance Committee Meeting**  
**March 19, 2012**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Municipal Center – Selectmen's Conference Room**

**Present:** Chair, Paul Helmreich; Vice-Chair, Lee Tarantino; Robert Camp; Thomas DeLuca; Michael Flaherty; William Rotondi; Michael Thomas; Wayne Graf.

Also present: Town Manager, Michael Yunits.

**Absent:** Peter Carignan; Jackie Desrochers; Stephen Evans.

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Flaherty to approve the March 14, 2012 Finance Committee minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Camp and Mr. Rotondi abstaining. **Motion carries.**

**II. New Business**

**Operating Budget Fixed Expenses:**

**# 151 – Legal Services** – Mr. Yunits explained that there is a \$5K increase from last year because there was a need for more money to be transferred in last year. In addition, contracts are still being negotiated this year.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #151-570 in the amount of \$95K. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**#162 – Election and Registration** – Mr. Helmreich stated that if the committee were to choose to include the new voting machine, as requested by the town clerk, this is where it would go.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #162-510 in the amount of \$550. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #162-570 in the amount of \$29,852. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**#176 – SE Regional Planning and Economic Development** –

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #176-560 in the amount of \$3,075. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**#195 – Town Report** –

**Motion** was made by Mr. Graf to recommend account #195-520 in the amount of \$3,200. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**#199 – Postage** –

**Motion** was made by Mr. Graf to recommend account #199-570 in the amount of \$35,567. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**#244 – Sealer Weights and Measures** –

**Motion** was made by Mr. Graf to recommend account #244-570 in the amount of \$2K. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**#425 – Street Lighting** – It was noted that this budget is up considerably at \$114K. Mr. Rotondi asked Mr. Yunits about the possibility of solar and wind ability. Mr. Yunits said that the wind turbine infrastructure is so expensive that it would not be worth it, but that the town continues to look into solar for the landfill location on Hill Street.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to recommend account #425-570 in the amount of \$110K, based on expenditures thus far and anticipated bills. Seconded by Mr. Graf. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**#438 – Sanitary Landfill** –

**Motion** was made by Mr. Graf to recommend account #438-570 in the amount of \$6,700. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

### **III. Old Business**

#### **Departmental Budget Requests:**

##### #171 – Conservation –

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #171-510 in the amount of \$78,891. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Camp abstaining. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #171-570 in the amount of \$10,825. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Camp abstaining. **Motion carries.**

##### #175 – Planning Board –

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #175-510 in the amount of \$49,192.52. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #175-570 in the amount of \$3,150. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

##### #241 – Inspection – The Expenses portion of the budget is down \$50 from last year.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #241-510 in the amount of \$143,571. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #241-570 in the amount of \$14,100. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

##### #292 – Dog Officer – Mr. Yunits informed the committee that this proposed budget cuts the assistant's position with the exception of vacation coverage. The office would be closed on weekends except for extreme emergencies.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #292-510 in the amount of \$41,663. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #292-570 in the amount of \$8,865. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

##### #510 – Board of Health – It was discussed that the salary vote of \$123,207 would be keeping the part-time position at 17 hours, not increasing it to 20 as requested.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #510-510 in the amount of \$123,207. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #510-570 in the amount of \$6,800. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

##### #522 – Public Health Nurse –

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #522-510 in the amount of \$28,093. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #522-570 in the amount of \$8,500. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

##### #541 – Council on Aging – Mr. DeLuca pointed out that the \$1,160 in the salaries section of the budget should be moved to the expense section.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #541-510 in the amount of \$0. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #541-570 in the amount of \$7,960. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

#543 – Veterans – It was noted that the regionalization has 3 agents for the 4 towns. Mr. DeLuca questioned who negotiated Norton's participation in the regionalization, noting that this was supposed to save the town money yet it is actually costing more. Mr. Yunits said that there was a board of directors with one representative from Norton, appointed by the selectmen. Mr. Helmreich noted that one benefit of the regionalization is that vacation coverage does not need to be provided, it is covered by the other agents. Mr. Thomas stated that the town will likely see savings once another town or 2 joins the group.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #543-510 in the amount of \$14,113. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #543-570 in the amount of \$47,873. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to recommend account #543-579 (Veteran's Benefits) in the amount of \$225,500. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Article 8 – Mansfield Ave. Revolving Fund:**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Thomas to take Article 8 off the table. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend Article 8 with the amended amount being \$25K. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Transfer Request –** For the printing and mailing of proposed Charter changes

Mr. Yunits informed the FinCom that the quote for the postage came back on the lower end of what was anticipated, so the total amount needed would be \$7,700 instead of the possible \$10,300.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Tarantino to move \$2,400 from the Finance Committee Reserve Fund to account #001-199-570-5341 (Postage), and \$5,300 from the Finance Committee Reserve Fund to account #001-162-570-5701 (Miscellaneous Expenses), a total of \$7,700. Vote: Seven members in favor, with Mr. Camp opposed. **Motion carries.** Mr. DeLuca noted that after this transfer there is now approximately \$138K left in the Reserve Account.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2012 at 7:30pm.

**Adjournment**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Graf to adjourn at 9:00 pm. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Documents Referenced:**

Minutes of March 14, 2012  
Reserve Fund Transfer request  
Operating fixed budgets - #s 151, 162, 176, 195, 199, 244, 425, 438  
Departmental budgets - #s 171, 175, 241, 292, 510, 522, 541, 543

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Paul Helmreich, Finance Committee Chair

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Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary