

Finance Committee Meeting
April 24, 2013
7:30 PM
Municipal Center – Selectmen’s Conference Room

Present: Chair, Lee Tarantino; Vice-Chair, Michael Flaherty; Thomas DeLuca; Richard Dorney; Stephen Evans (late arrival); Paul Helmreich; Michael Thomas.
Also present: Town Manager, Michael Yunits.

Absent: Peter Carignan; Jackie Desrochers; William Rotondi.

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 April 17, 2013 Finance Committee minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Motion was made by Mr. Helmreich to approve the April 22, 2013 Finance Committee minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Flaherty. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

II. New Business

Transfer Request – Fuel Expenses

Mr. Yunits explained that Mr. Silver, Highway Superintendent, has stated that the need for funds to purchase fuel cannot wait until Town Meeting.

Mr. Yunits informed the FinCom that the present Finance Committee Reserve Fund balance is \$64K.

Motion was made by Mr. Flaherty to transfer \$8K from the Finance Committee Reserve Fund to account #1-940-540-5481 (Miscellaneous). Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

It was discussed that the balance in the Dog Fund is \$75K+.

Mr. Yunits said that he would like to put some money in the Capital Fund and then wait until the October Town Meeting to put funds in the Stabilization Fund.

III. Old Business

Annual Town Meeting Warrant Article Votes:

Article 2 – Chapter 90 Transportation Aid Program –

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend Article 2 to accept the Chapter 90 Aid funds. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Article 7 – Dorrance Parcels –

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend Article 7 as written. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich.

Mr. Evans inquired about the possibility of ongoing maintenance of the land and Mr. Yunits said that they are isolated, unbuildable lots that require no maintenance.

Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Article 15 – By-Law: Demolition Delay –

Mr. Yunits, referring to a previous conversation, explained that the town’s Board of Survey consists of the Fire Chief, an Engineer/Surveyor, the Building Inspector, as well as an uninterested party. He said that this revised Section 5 of the proposed by-law takes those people specifically out and replaces them with “the Inspection Team”.

Motion was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend Article 15. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca.

Mr. Thomas asked why this article is necessary, expressing his strong feeling that homeowners should have the right to do with their property what they wish. Mr. Yunits said that the purpose behind the article is to possibly save some historic town buildings.

Vote: 6 members in favor, with Mr. Thomas opposed. **Motion carries.**

School Budget #300

Mr. Yunits updated the FinCom stating that he has spoken with the School Department and that they are still working on balancing their FY14 budget. He said that including the proposed Autism program, they are only \$60K short. He also said that there are 5 retirements anticipated for the coming year.

Discussion on Veterans District

Mr. Evans asked how the District would work now that Easton will no longer be a part of it.

Mr. Yunits said that Town Managers and Town Representatives from the towns in the district will be meeting on Tuesday night to discuss the impact of that as well as the future of the district. He said he plans to recommend that the district does not hire a 3rd VSO as was planned. He noted that this would have to comply with the state guidelines.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 29, 2013 at 7:30 pm.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Flaherty to adjourn at 8:05 pm. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: Unanimous.

Motion carries.

Documents Referenced: Minutes of April 17, 2013
Minutes of April 22, 2013
Annual Town Meeting Warrant updated draft
Reserve Fund Transfer Request - fuel

Respectfully Submitted by: _____

Lee Tarantino, Finance Committee Chair

Date Approved

Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary