

**Finance Committee Meeting
October 7, 2013
6:00 PM
Norton Middle School Cafeteria**

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

Absent: Vice Chair, Peter Carignan; Jackie Desrochers.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Helmreich to approve the September 30, 2013 Finance Committee minutes as written. Seconded by Mr. Rotondi. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Tarantino and Mr. Evans abstaining. **Motion carries.**

II. New Business

New Business was not discussed at this meeting.

III. Old Business

Fall Annual Town Meeting Articles were discussed/re-voted as follows:

Article 1 – Unpaid Bills –

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to reconsider Article 1 – Unpaid Bills. Seconded by Mr. Rotondi. Vote: All in favor.
Motion carries.

Mr. Flaherty informed the FinCom that the \$625 bill for Insurance has been increased to \$1,137.38 and that a \$445.67 bill for the Public Health Nurse has been added. This brings the total for the article to \$10,108.63.

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend Article 1 in the amount of \$10,108.63. Seconded by Mr. Rotondi. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Article 7 – Electric Sign –

Mr. Yunits said that the Board of Selectmen would like to move the article for \$24K for the electric sign. They want it for town communication. He noted that on the present sign, only one message can be displayed at a time. On the new sign, multiple messages could scroll through and could be programmed by computer, as opposed to the current sign which needs to be changed manually.

Mr. Yunits said that the funding would come from Free Cash.

Mr. Helmreich said that he thinks that this sign is unnecessary but that possibly in the spring the sign could be a consideration for Capital Improvements.

Mr. Robert Salvo, Selectman, said that the quote includes \$6,500 for training on use of the sign.

Mr. DeLuca said that he can't support this, especially in light of how tight the budget is.

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to reconsider Article 7 – Electric Sign. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: All in favor.
Motion carries.

Motion was made by Mr. Thomas to recommend Article 7 in the amount of \$24K. Seconded by Mr. Rotondi. Vote: Mr. Tarantino, Mr. Dorney, and Mr. Flaherty in favor; 6 other members opposed. **Motion FAILS.**

After some time, and discussion with other Select Board members, Mr. Kimball returned to the meeting and informed the FinCom that the Select Board would **not** be moving the article.

Article 12 – Land Acquisition: 31.6 Acres Crane Farm –

Motion was made by Mr. Helmreich to reconsider Article 12 – Crane Farm. Seconded by Mr. Fiore. Vote: All in favor.
Motion carries.

New language in the article was discussed to include the words "the provisions of Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution" to follow the words "held by the Conservation Commission under the provisions of G.L. c.40, 8C", about two-thirds of the way into the motion.

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend Article 12 with the new language. Seconded by Mr. Rotondi. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Article 14 – Water Shed Plan –

Mr. Yunits informed the FinCom that the Select Board has voted to apply for the grant for this study. He also noted that other watersheds that are outside of Norton come into town. This study would include data on surrounding towns as well.

The Board of Selectmen would like to transfer \$50K from Free Cash to get the study started. Mr. Kimball said that the \$50K will not be spent unless the town does in fact get the grant. He said that he feels that if the town were to support this project by funding the \$50K it would show, when applying for the grant, that the town is committed to the project.

Motion was made by Mr. Helmreich to reconsider Article 14 – Water Shed Plan. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Motion was made by Mr. DeLuca to recommend and fund Article 14 in the amount of \$50K, coming from Free Cash. Seconded by Mr. Helmreich. Vote: 7 members in favor, with Mr. Flaherty and Mr. Evans opposed. **Motion carries.**

Article 21 – By-Laws: Permanent Building Committee -

Mr. Deniz Savas, School Committee member, addressed the FinCom regarding this article. He informed the FinCom that the School Committee would be moving an amendment to Section 4: Membership, part 1. The amendment would add to the last sentence of part 1, as follows: Following the words "Provided that a quorum of each body is present, appointment shall be made by majority vote of those present", omit the words "and voting", and add the words "provided the majority contains at least one member of each of the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee".

Motion was made by Mr. Thomas to allow the Chair to speak favorably on the amendment that the School Committee plans to make to the article on the town meeting room floor. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. Tarantino abstaining. **Motion carries.**

Next Meeting

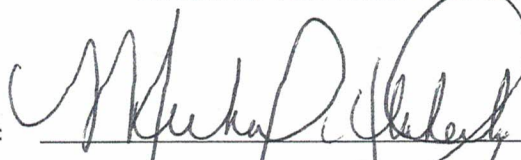
Future meetings are not scheduled at this time.

Adjournment

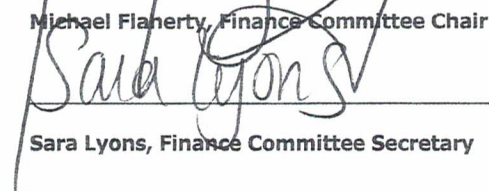
Motion was made by Mr. Tarantino to adjourn at 6:45 pm. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Documents Referenced: Minutes of September 30, 2013
Motions for Fall Annual Town Meeting

Respectfully Submitted by:



Michael Flaherty, Finance Committee Chair



Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary



Date Approved