

**Finance Committee Meeting**  
**April 2, 2014**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Municipal Center – Selectmen's Conference Room**

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NORTON TOWN CLERK

2015 APR 16 P 1:17

**Present:** Chair, Michael Flaherty; Vice-Chair, Peter Carignan; Thomas DeLuca; Jackie Desrochers; Richard Dorney; Stephen Evans; Michael Fiore; Paul Helmreich; William Rotondi; Lee Tarantino; Michael Thomas.  
Also present: Town Manager, Michael Yunits.

**Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

**I. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion** was made by Mr. DeLuca to approve the March 19, 2014 Finance Committee minutes as amended. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor, with Ms. Desrochers and Mr. Carignan abstaining. **Motion carries.**

**II. New Business**

Southeastern Regional School District #306 – Superintendent Luis Lopes addressed the FinCom regarding the FY15 budget. The total school budget is \$23,092,871, which is an increase of 1.73%. He noted that the student enrollment for Norton is 117, which is 8.6% of total enrollment.

Superintendent Lopes stated that the cost of transportation is outside of the budget. He said that the school is not allowed to charge the students for transportation and that the state is supposed to reimburse towns for transportation costs. However, the reality is that they only get reimbursed about 60%. He said that the anticipated reimbursement state aid for transportation is \$757,299.

Superintendent Lopes informed the FinCom that Norton's minimum contribution, set by the state, is \$1,161,724. With that, along with other costs such as transportation, Norton's total assessment for FY15 is \$1,240,944.

Southeastern Regional School Stability Account –

Superintendent Lopes explained that this would give them the capacity to generate revenue (from bus rentals, etc.) to use for Capital projects. He said that they already generate funds but do not presently have an account to put the funds into to build upon for use later on large projects, because they are not allowed to have a Capital Account.

Superintendent Lopes said that presently when funds are generated they need to be used within the fiscal year, but that the establishment of this account would allow for funds to accrue for use on larger, capital projects.

Superintendent Lopes stated that the intent is to use this account for capital projects only; however the law states that it would be allowed to be used for anything.

Mr. Tarantino said that he would rather see the SE School District go to the courts to request the ability to have a Capital Account than set up this Stability Account. Supt. Lopes said that he would look further into this.

Mr. Tarantino said that he feels that the fees that the SE Reg. School get for bus rentals, etc. should be a credit to the school's budget as opposed to going into a Stabilization account.

**FY15 Proposed Departmental Budgets:**

Mr. Yunits informed the FinCom that he has made \$242,424 in cuts to the overall budget since the last meeting.

Town Accountant #135 –

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #135-510 (Personnel Service) in the amount of \$174,450. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #135-520 (Annual Audit) in the amount of \$24K. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #135-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$2,710. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Assessor #141 –

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #141-510 (Personnel Service) in the amount of \$125,444. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**



**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #141-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$32,330. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Treasurer/Collector #147 -

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #147-510 (Personnel Service) in the amount of \$194,413. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. DeLuca abstaining. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #147-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$47,790. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: All in favor, with Mr. DeLuca abstaining. **Motion carries.**

Data Processing #155 -

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #155-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$144,023. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Conservation #171 -

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #171-510 (Personnel Service) in the amount of \$86,200. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #171-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$10,850. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Planning Board #175 -

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #175-510 (Personnel Service) in the amount of \$49,477. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #175-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$3,150. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Municipal Building #192 -

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #192-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$201,280. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Inspection #241 -

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #241-510 (Personnel Service) in the amount of \$149,584. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #241-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$12,765. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Animal Control #292 -

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #292-510 (Personnel Service) in the amount of \$48,650. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #292-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$8,715. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Board of Health #510 -

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #510-510 (Personnel Service) in the amount of \$129,301. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #510-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$6,475. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Public Health Nurse #522 -

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #522-510 (Personnel Service) in the amount of \$30,697. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #522-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$8,650. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Council on Aging #541 –

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #541-510 (Personnel Service) in the amount of \$33,613. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #541-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$7,660. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Veteran's Agent #543 –

Mr. Tarantino noted that he has personally been working with the new Veteran's Agent for the past 6 months and he is very impressed.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #543-510 (Personnel Service) in the amount of \$51,510. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #543-570 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$3,330. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend budget #543-579 (Charges & Expenditures) in the amount of \$230K. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**Town Meeting Warrant Articles:**

Article 14 – Water Enterprise Budget –

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend Article 14 in the amount of \$3,176,359. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Article 15 – Sewer Enterprise Budget –

Mr. Yunits noted that he has reduced the Legal Services line by \$10K (from \$20K to \$10K).

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend Article 15 in the amount of \$1,728,479. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

Article – Zoning By-Laws/Maps to Town Clerk –

Mr. Yunits explained that this article would change the by-law so that maps and zoning books would be purchased through the Clerk's office instead of the Building Department where it occurs presently.

**Motion** was made by Mr. Carignan to recommend the article pertaining to the zoning by-laws changing to allow the purchasing of maps and other zoning materials to be done through the Town Clerk's office. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: All in favor. **Motion carries.**

**III. Old Business**

Old business was not discussed at this meeting.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2014 at 7:00 pm.

**Adjournment**

**Motion** was made by Mr. DeLuca to adjourn at 8:35 pm. Seconded by Mr. Thomas. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

**Documents Referenced:**

Minutes of March 19, 2014

Annual Town Meeting Warrant Draft

FY15 Proposed Budgets for departments - #s 306, 135, 141, 147, 155, 171, 175, 192, 241, 292, 510, 522, 541, 543

Southeastern Regional School District Budget Request Packet

Respectfully Submitted by:

  
Michael Flaherty, Finance Committee Chair

  
Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary

4/9/14  
Date Approved