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Finance Committee Meeting Minutes September 25, 2017

I. 7:00 P.M. Call to Order

The September 25, 2017, meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the Board of Selectman's Meeting Room and was called to order at 7:00 P.M., by Mr. Dorney, Chairman. Members Present: Mr. Walter Eykel, Mr. Aaron Smith, Ms. Aimee Sawyer, Mr. Peter Carignan, Mr. Paul Helmreich, Mr. Richard Dorney, Mr. William Rotondi, Ms. Bonnie Yezukevich and Mr. Tom DeLuca. Also in attendance was Mr. Mike Yunits, Town Manager. Not in attendance: Mr. Stephen Evans.

Mr. Dorney Rick welcomed Ms. Bonnie Yezukevich to the Committee.

II. Warrant Article Discussion

Mr. Yunits came before the Board and explained the following articles to be discussed were Water and Sewer business. Mr. Bernie Marshall came before the Board and discussed the following articles:

1. Article 5 & 6 – There is no supplement to the budget for 2018 so no action is needed.

MOTION was made by Mr. Fiore to take no action on articles 5 and 6. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca Vote: Unanimous MOTION CARRIES

2. Article 18 – The Board of water/sewer commissioners are requesting an additional \$345,000 for the construction of a Water Treatment Plant facility to treat drinking water from Well 4, 5, and 6. The \$345,000 would include the re-design of the existing building, currently on a two-acre parcel of land and additional building codes that will need to be changed. The estimated completion date is fall of 2019. Mr. Helmreich inquired about the earlier costs to which Mr. Marshall replied a supplement of \$645,000 has been requested which equals a total amount of about \$10 million. If this is not used, it will go into the reserve fund. Mr. Marshall discussed the findings of the archaeological surveys and stated this building would be a conventional treatment facility with no ability to expand. Mr. Carignan inquired about the frequency of water line flushes to which Mr. Marshall responded the Town flushes annually. Mr. DeLuca inquired about the amount in the reserve fund. Mr. Yunits replied \$8.9 million was originally in the reserve fund until \$125,000 was used for a flushing program hydraulic model. This should be in place in April, 2018. Mr. Marshall described the reasoning behind the occasional brown water is due to the type of pipe. The current pipes decay over time and cause brown water. The focus is to replace these pipes with AC pipe, to lessen the occurrence of brown water. Mr. Carignan suggested the Town website be updated with the flushing schedule. Mr. Marshall agreed to follow-up.

MOTION was made by Mr. Fiore to recommend Article 18 – to transfer the Water Surplus account the sum of \$345,000 for the construction of a Water Treatment Plan facility, as written. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Vote: Unanimous MOTION CARRIES

3. Article 19 – The Board of water/sewer commissioners are requesting \$1.125 million from the Water Surplus account to replace asbestos pipe water main and appurtenances on Reservoir Street. Mr. Marshall commented this project is about 85% designed and should be complete by the Town meeting.

MOTION was made by Mr. Fiore to recommend Article 19 - to transfer the sum of \$1.125 million from the Water Surplus account to replace asbestos pipe water main and appurtenances on Reservoir Street, as written. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous MOTION CARRIES

4. Article 20 – This would deem the land Parcels 19-2-0 and 19-3-0 as archaeologically sensitive. This would mean there would be no buildings on the properties and certain criteria has to be met. Barbara Cook, engineer, has scheduled a meeting to develop language that will outline what is necessary from the Water and Sewer Commissioners. There is no money associated with request, just a land deed restriction. This has to be done before the ground is broken.

MOTION was made by Mr. Helmreich to take no action on Article 20. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous MOTION CARRIES

5. Article 21 – The Board of water/sewer commissioners are requesting \$55,000 to from the Sewer Surplus account to conduct sewer flow metering Mr. Marshall commented this testing needs to be done to show there are no problems with flow in the system.

MOTION was made by Mr. Fiore to recommend Article 21 – to transfer from the Sewer Surplus account the sum of \$55,000 to conduct sewer flow metering and reporting, as written. Seconded by Mr. Rotondi Vote: Unanimous MOTION CARRIES

6. Article – This allows the Town to charge interest on unpaid sewer betterment assessments, not to exceed 2%.

MOTION was made by Mr. Fiore to recommend Article 22 – to allow the Town to charge interest on unpaid sewer betterment assessments, as written. Seconded by Mr. Smith. Vote: Unanimous MOTION CARRIES

III. Free Cash Discussion

Mike Yunits came before the Board and presented materials on free cash. Mr. Yunits gave an overview of the materials including a description of the role of free cash, calculations, history dating back to 2002, sources of free cash and descriptions including local receipts and a review of turn backs. Mr. Yunits also described the certification process

MOTION was made by Mr. Helmreich to recommend Article 1, as written. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous MOTION CARRIES

IV. Other Business

Mr. Yunits then gave a description of Article 12. This article would fund the costs of the engineering and design for a new Town Hall and new Senior Center. Mr. Yunits went on to describe the need for each of these buildings. The Town Hall would remain in the same location and the Senior Center location is yet to be determined. Mr. Helmreich asked if the Town had done a comprehensive analysis of the other needs of the Town. Mr. Yunits replied the Town has done multiple work on multiple other properties in the Town and none are more in need of repair/rebuild than the Town Hall and Senior Center. Mr. Yunits has contacted the Town of Foxboro and inquired about the cost of their new Town Hall. Foxboro built the new Town hall for \$8 million. Mr. Kimball came before the Board and stated the Board of Selectman is fully committed to this project.

MOTION was made by Mr. Fiore to recommend Article 12, as written. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous MOTION CARRIES

Mr. Kimball came before Board and gave a description of article 17. This article would appropriate funds to cast, refurbish, restore, replace and/or install the Norton Town Common fence located in the historic district. The original request of \$65,000 was not enough to finish this restoration. In addition to this funding, the Town is also soliciting donations to get the project completed. The Historic Commission has asked the Town not to expand the fence so additional pieces will not be added.

MOTION was made by Mr. Fiore to recommend Article 17, as written. Seconded by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous MOTION CARRIES

Mr. Dorney asked all members to consider being a liaison for a specific Town department. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Fiore to approve the Finance Committee Minutes of Meeting dated September 20, 2017 as written. Seconded by Ms. Sawyer. Vote: (7-0-3) MOTION CARRIES

II. Adjournment

MOTION was made by Mr. Fiore to Adjourn at 8:39 p.m. Second by Mr. Rotondi. Vote: Unanimous. MOTION CARRIES.

Materials Provided:

- Warrant Draft (9/25/27)
- ATM Score Sheet
- Map of Archaeological No-Build Zones
- Current Town By-Law, re. Betterments
- Opinion Article – B. Gouveia

- Unpaid Bills – Amended
- Free Cash Informational Packet

Respectfully Submitted by:

Kayleigh Correia
Recording Secretary

Minutes Approved by Committee

on: October 11, 2017
(Date)

Signature: Richard F. Jerny