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TOWN OF NORTON
FINANCE COMMITTEE
Norton High School Cafeteria
JUNE 3, 2019
6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

I. 6:05 P.M. Call to Order

The June 3, 2019 meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the Norton High School Cafeteria and was called to order at 6:05 P.M., by Mr. William Rotondi, Chairman.

Members Present: Mr. Peter Carignan, Mr. Thomas DeLuca, Mr. Richard Dorney, Mr. Stephen Evans, Mr. Michael Fiore, Mr. Paul Helmreich, Ms Aimee Sawyer, Mr. Aaron Smith, and Ms Bonnie Yezukevich.

Absent: Mr. Walter Eykel

II. New Business

Mr. Rotondi asked for subcommittee volunteers. Michael Fiore, Aimee Sawyer, Aaron Smith, and Peter Carignan.

Mr. Dorney asked what is an ad hoc committee? Mr. Rotondi answered it is a committee with a narrow and specific purpose that has a beginning and an end.

Mr. Evans asked what is the difference between open meeting and ad hoc?

Mr. Helmreich stated to be careful with reaching agreement on things in a closed, subcommittee meeting. He also advises consulting with Town Counsel.

Thank you to Paul Helmreich for many years of service. Gift presented to Paul along with cake.

Mr. Dorney made a motion to grant to Paul Helmreich Emeritus Status of the Finance Committee.

Mr. Carignan seconded

Unanimous

Environmental Experts addressed Elm Street Site

Mr. Yunits spoke about a meeting held today onsite with the Environmental Experts and the Building Commissioner. The Building Commissioner wants to pull back on this site due to further expenses. He also declared some of the buildings "Imminent Danger" to the public and must be taken down. Because there is no owner, the expense will fall to the town. This can no longer wait.

Mr. Flaherty asked if there is just asbestos in the building? There is also Trichloroethylene above the reportable rate. Reed & Barton has money set aside to clean up the site. A temporary dam was put in after the oil leak was found. The leak is from a crack in two underground tanks. These tanks were probably installed in the 40's - 50's.

Is the EPA going to clean up what they find? Depends on what they find and the cost. DEP had asbestos removal cost of \$1.2 Million. Mr. Carmichael got estimates for asbestos removal, demolition and removing concrete slabs for \$1.3 Million.

Mr. Evans - Do we have an itemized list of costs as of today? Not the exact costs. However, \$106,000 for EPA and DEP \$1.2 Million so far. EPA reserves the right to take back some money, but only if the town sells the property for profit.

EPA wasn't allowed to clean up the oil leak. The Coast Guard got involved because the oil leak can travel into tributaries. The funds from the Coast Guard go through the EPA not to the town.

Environmental Expert stated that in the degree of contamination - this is small. They have sampled all drinking wells in the area and they are all OK.

Mr. Carignan would still like to see what has been spent so far and what still needs to be cleaned.

Ms Sawyer stated that the town was told all along that this was going to cost nothing to the town.

Mr. Rotondi stated that we need a site and then build accordingly.

Mr. Helmreich stated that we all agree the need for this project, I just don't see why we should approve it before we have something ready to go.

Mr. Gouveia - stated that if this Article is moved at this Special Town Meeting, he will turn to the Finance Committee Chairman to explain why they are not recommending. Then he will ask the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen to ask where they stand. He will also allow a broad area of discussion from the floor.

III. Old Business

IV. Open items

V. Minutes

VI. Adjournment

Mr. Smith motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 P.M.

Seconded by Ms Yezukevich

Unanimous

Respectively submitted by: William Rotondi 7/10/19
William Rotondi, Finance Committee Chair Date Approved

Patricia Tarantino
Patricia Tarantino, Recording Secretary