

# **Minutes Finance Committee**

## **Town of Bellingham – Municipal Center**

### **Monday, April 23, 2007**

1. Present: Raymond Szczepan; Henri Masson; Carol Dill ; Joseph Collamati; Roland Lavallee; Toni Picariello

2. Absent: Gary Maynard

3. Meeting called to order: 7:16 p.m.

4. **ARTICLE 10 – CAPITAL OUTLAY - Grove Street Standpipe Rehab -DPW (Joint w/Capital Improvement Committee)**

Donald DiMartino, DPW superintendent appeared. Amount requested is \$900,000.

This is strictly for recoating. There is no “pitting” to worry about. The contractors will strip everything off, down to the steel. Donald DiMartino would like to start work on July 14, 2007.

Bids will be in-hand next Friday, April 27, 2007.

***Roland Lavallee/Carol Dill motion to recommend this article. Funding: \$900,000 to be paid through water receipts. VOTE: 6/0.***

5. **ARTICLE 25 - ACORN STREET/WALNUT STREET - Petitioner: Foresight Enterprises Corp.**

Attorney Michael Juster appeared. These streets were accepted by the Town at October 2006 Town Meeting. The land court would not accept the deed as prepared, because the land is registered land. This article is to correct the required paperwork and wording for the Certificate of Title (Deed) for the Land Court.

Toni Picariello informed the committee that the developer’s name in the article is incorrect and per the Secretary of State’s office the name is Foresight Enterprises Corp. not Foresight Enterprises, Inc.

***Roland Lavallee/Henri Masson motion to accept this article with all costs to be born by the developer. VOTE: 6/0***

6. **ARTICLE 1, Accounts 300 and 303 - School Department**

Ronald Martel, School Committee and Debbie Page, school accountant appeared. Amount requested for Account 300: \$19,967,486, and Account 303: \$1,400,00.

Raymond Szczepan is concerned about the MCAS scores – he feels that the school need to get out of the box and something needs to be done.

Toni Picariello asked about the transportation line item in the School budget and why it was not in the Transportation budget. The money is for the salaries of the bus monitors. The transportation account is only to cover the bus contract.

Superintendent Mattocks made a presentation regarding MCAS – Bellingham is improving. The class sizes are small (18/20 kids). If you have large class sizes it costs less money.

Gwen Swanson mentioned that they are looking at math specialists and they target literacy.

The transportation budget has decreased because of fewer routes.

***Raymond Szczepan/Henri Masson motion to recommend the School Budget (#300) for \$19,967,486 and the Transportation Budget (#303) for \$1,400,000. VOTE: 6/0***

#### **ARTICLE 9, AMEND ARTICLE 1**

Amount requested to be transferred from School Transportation to School Budget is \$95,793.30. They have extra in the transportation budget because there are fewer routes. The school committee would like the amount transferred to the school budget to cover expenses.

***Raymond Szczepan/Henri Masson motion to recommend the transfer of \$95,793.30 from transportation account to school department account. VOTE: 6/0.***

7. **ARTICLE 20 - SCENIC ROAD DESIGNATION/HIGH STREET - Petitioner: James R. Dunlea (Presentation was made 4/2)**

James Dunlea appeared. He handed out documentation dated 4/18/2007. He wanted to follow-up on his presentation of 4/2/2007.

He was informed of Town Counsel's comment of 4/9/2007, which is:

*If the scenic by law is not in place then there is no need for compliance. I would think that before the PB gives its OK, knowing that there is this proposal before the Town, that they would make them comply with the proposed bylaw if it is voted on, or hold up on the decision until they know. Why would they ignore the possibility, and there would be horrible public relations if EMC just went thru and did the damage to beat the by law.*

*Remember most of the trees and walls we are talking about are within the Towns Right of way.*

*Mere fact of getting the PB's ok before the Town Meeting is irrelevant; they would have to comply once the Scenic Law went into effect, regardless of when they got the Planning Board Approval.*

There was also the Conservation Commissions input. See below:

*Attached are the minutes of Feb. 14th in which the Conservation Commission held a public hearing for scenic road status for High St.*

*Don DiMartino's letter notwithstanding, the Commission strongly believes that High Street is the quintessential scenic road. It is exactly this kind of by-way that the Commonwealth had in mind when they instituted the Scenic Road Program. As an old country way, it is characterized by twists and turns and hills lined by mature shade trees and stone walls. The road crosses two major wetland systems. The first being a White Cedar Swamp just past its mid-point on the westerly end and the second the wetland system associated with the Charles River.*

*Future "improvement" of this road would be difficult to say the least due to the regulatory constraints associated with impacts to resource areas Bordering Vegetated Wetland; bordering Land Subject to Flooding, Land Under Water, and Bank.*

*In short, the Commission unanimously supported this Article as it exactly fits the criteria of the program.*

*To editorialize, it also represents a rapidly vanishing example of Bellingham's heritage.*

Any DPW construction would be expensive to the Town.

Per the Planning Board, the 1<sup>st</sup> lot to be developed on the EMC property would be required to do a traffic study.

***Toni Picariello/Henri Masson motion to recommend this article. VOTE: 2/4 (It's not recommended)***

**8. ARTICLE 1, Accounts 421, 422, 425 – DPW**

Donald DiMartino appeared.

FinCom did not have any questions regarding the DPW budget except on Highway Maintenance (Vehicle maintenance). There are 3 mechanics working on the machinery.

*Joseph Collamati/Carol Dill motion to recommend Highway Administration (#421) \$115,301, broken down as follows: \$93,101 salaries and \$22,200 expenses. VOTE: 6/0.*

*Roland Lavallee/Henri Masson motion to recommend Highway Construction/Maintenance (Road Maintenance)(#422) \$718,312, broken down as follows: \$454,112 salaries and \$264,200 expenses. VOTE: 6/0.*

*Joseph Collamati/Henri Masson motion to recommend Highway Maintenance (Vehicle Maintenance) (#425) \$72,000 as expenses. VOTE: 6/0.*

#### **ARTICLE 8 - HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION (Chapter 90)**

The Town is expected to receive approximately \$384,000 from the State under Chapter 90. This will be used on Hartford Avenue, from the cemetery to Maple Street and for drainage on Lake Street at Clair's way).

#### **ARTICLE 9, AMEND ARTICLE 1**

| Department/Account        | Amount requested | Funding from/Transfer from  | CHANGES     | NEW TOTALS  |
|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Highway/Const. – Expenses | \$50,000.00      | Highway/Const.-Salaries     | \$55,000.00 | \$55,000.00 |
| Snow & Ice Removal        | \$50,000.00      | Debt service-Interest       |             | \$50,000.00 |
| Snow & Ice Removal        | \$45,000.00      | Free Cash                   |             | \$45,000.00 |
| Snow & Ice Removal        | \$68,000.00      | Encumbrances                | \$37,009.00 | \$37,009.00 |
| Snow & Ice Removal        | \$13,991.33      | Highway-Front End Loader    |             | \$13,991.33 |
| Snow & Ice Removal        | \$609.00         | DPW-Utility Plow Truck      |             | \$609.00    |
| Snow & Ice Removal        | \$11,104.00      | Police-2 Marked Cruisers    |             | \$11,104.00 |
| Snow & Ice Removal        | \$5,160.00       | Animal Control-Pickup Truck |             | \$5,160.00  |
| Snow & Ice Removal        | \$1,839.61       | Fire-Brush Truck            |             | \$1,839.61  |
| Snow & Ice Removal        |                  | Police-3 Marked Cruisers    | \$12,991.00 | \$12,991.00 |
| Snow & Ice Removal        |                  | Property & Liability Ins.   | \$18,474.84 | \$18,474.84 |
| Water-Expenses            | \$10,000.00      | Water-Salaries              | \$15,000.00 | \$15,000.00 |
| Sewer-Salaries            | \$10,000.00      | Sewer-Surplus               | \$8,000.00  | \$8,000.00  |
| Sewer-Expenses            | \$40,000.00      | Sewer-Surplus               |             | \$40,000.00 |

*Toni Picariello/Henri Masson motion to recommend the transfers as listed and amounts under "new totals" for the DPW. VOTE: 6/0*

# **ARTICLE 17 - ZONING BY-LAW REVISION/AS-BUILT REQUIREMENTS (heard Planning Board 4/2)**

The FinCom heard this on 4/2/2007 with the Planning Board. The DPW drafted the article.

# **ARTICLE 18 - PULASKI BOULEVARD PROJECT LAND AND EASEMENT**

Amount requested \$158,000. This amount will be transferred. It has already been budgeted at previous town meetings.

See below for land taking:

Pulaski Boulevard TIP Road Project  
Easement (Roadway Drainage)  
Acquisition Status

| Map<br>Reference | #       | Street            | Owner                         | Status   | Budget        | Acq'd \$ | Est. Area<br>(SF) |
|------------------|---------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--|---------------|----------|-------------------|
| E-1              | 20      | South Main Street | Kenneth & Carol Nowak         | Verbal Accepted \$1,500 offer getting P&S Notarized  | \$ 1,500.00   | 1,100    | 111               |
| E-2              | 401-405 | Pulaski Boulevard | Dean Acquisitions, Inc.       | P&S IN HAND  | \$ 1.00       | 7,341    | 1,360             |
| E-3, D-10        | Vacant  | Pulaski Boulevard | Bellingham Lumber & Wholesale | Denis F. offer of \$25,000 thru Atty (4/23/07)       | \$ 25,000.00  | 965      | 27,076            |
| D-11             | 121     | Pulaski Boulevard | Roland R. & Irene Carrier     | P&S IN HAND  | \$ 6,000.00   | 8,000    | 815               |
| E-4              | 7 & 9   | Wrentham Street   | Deafney Limb                  | Verbal to be gift since day one - No P&S             | \$ 1.00       | 18,410   | 53,541            |
| D-2              | 395     | Pulaski Boulevard | Bellingham LLC                | Verbal to be gift since day one - No P&S             | \$ 4,750.00   | 2,400    | 10,823            |
| D-4              | 635     | Pulaski Boulevard | Williamson Lent               | Verbal Accepted \$4,750 offer getting Notarized      | \$ 31,000.00  | 31,000   | 8,050             |
| D-7 & D-8        | 1-3     | Dear Run Road     | Ellen & Melissa Taylor        | Verbal Accepted \$31,000 offer getting P&S Notarized | \$ 1,000.00   | 1,000    | 232               |
| D-9              | 30      | Pinw Washier Way  | Errol & Angela Matcain        | P&S IN HAND  | \$ 5,100.00   | 5,100    | 420               |
| D-12             | 1201    | Pulaski Boulevard | Scott Rhodes (Late St. Auto)  | Verbal Accepted \$5,100 offer getting P&S Notarized  | \$ 34,000     | 34,000   | 13,967            |
| D-13             | 7       | Denault Drive     | Steven & Krys Silva           | P&S IN HAND  | \$ 4,700.00   | 4,700    | 2,240             |
| D-14             | 1422    | Pulaski Boulevard | John J. & Nalle M. Poonim     | P&S IN HAND  | \$ 1,500.00   | 1,500    | 1,356             |
| D-15             | 1440    | Pulaski Boulevard | Jamie P. & Colleen M. Jarquet | Verbal Accepted \$1,500 offer getting P&S Notarized  | \$ 145,223.00 |          |                   |

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4/23/2007

*Joseph Collamati/Raymond Szczepan motion to recommend this article.*

*Funding: Not-to-exceed \$158,000.00; broken down as follows:*

*Transfer \$150,000 from Article 18 of the May 24, 2006 Annual Town Meeting (Pulaski Blvd. Roadway Improvements Acct. 377) and*

*Transfer \$8,000 from Article 9 of the October 11, 2006 Special Town Meeting (Pulaski Blvd. Project Easements Acct. 100-911-69235)*

*VOTE: 5/1/0 (Toni Picariello voting not in favor)*

**ARTICLE 19 - BELLSTONE DRIVE ACCEPTANCE**

The Planning Board is holding \$6,000 on this roadway.

The Conservation Commission and Police Department recommends this acceptance.

*Carol Dill/Henri Masson motion to recommend this article. VOTE: 6/0*

9. **ARTICLE 26 - SALE OF WATER TO MENDON - Board of Selectmen**

Donald DiMartino handed out information (see last page).

The rate that Mendon would pay will be the highest rate. If Bellingham has any water bans, Mendon will have to follow the same regulations. There would be meter installed on Hartford Avenue at the Charles River Bridge (Mendon town line).

The benefits to Bellingham? \$35,775, plus \$16,500 for 10 years. There will be no cost to Bellingham. It was mentioned that interest should be added on the unpaid balance of \$165,000

The Board of Selectmen supports this article. DEP supports selling water to residents. Gary Maynard mentioned that we are within DEP limits of pumping water.

*Joseph Collamati/Henri Masson motion to recommend this article. VOTE: 2/4 (Toni Picariello, Roland Lavallee, Carol Dill, Raymond Szczepan) (not recommended)*

10. **ARTICLE 9 – AMEND ARTICLE 1**

Figures are on the print-out that Marilyn Mathieu distributed.

| Department/Account      | Amount requested | Funding from/Transfer from       | CHANGES | NEW TOTALS  |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| Reserve Fund – Expenses | \$25,000.00      | Debt Service-Short Term interest |         | \$25,000.00 |
| Assessors-Elected       | \$600.00         | Free Cash                        |         | \$600.00    |

|                               |             |   |             |             |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---|-------------|-------------|
| Board                         |             |   |             |             |
| Assessors-Salaries            | \$2,000.00  | Free Cash                               |             | \$2,000.00  |
| Municipal Bldgs.-<br>Expenses | \$26,000.00 | Debt Service-Short<br>Term interest     |             | \$26,000.00 |
| OJI-§111F Payment             | \$35,000.00 | Debt Serving-<br>Short Term<br>interest | \$45,000.00 | \$45,000.00 |
| Veterans-Expenses             | \$4,000.00  | Free Cash                               |             | \$4,000.00  |

***Joseph Collamati/Raymond Szczepan motion to recommend the transfers as listed and amounts under “new totals” for the mentioned departments. VOTE: 6/0***

### **ARTICLE 1 – Breakdown of Funding – FinCom**

The funding for Article 1 is listed on Marilyn Mathieu’s handout. She will contact Toni Picariello to go over the exact figures<sup>1</sup>.

Funding will come from Ambulance Receipts, Title V Receipts, Stabilization Fund, Overlay Surplus and Taxation.

***Raymond Szczepan/Joseph Collamati motion to recommend funding. VOTE: 6/0***

### **ARTICLE 1, Account 163 - Board of Registrars (payment)**

***Toni Picariello/Raymond Szczepan motion to add to the Board of Registrars budget the following: “The Board of Registrars is authorized to appoint one of its members, excluding the Clerk, to serve as Census Updater and to pay said Registrar \$10.00 per hour, not to exceed \$1,000.00 of the total expense budget.” VOTE: 6/0.***

### **ARTICLE 1, Account 189 - Municipal Buildings maintenance breakdown.**

Board of Selectmen prepared and Denis Fraine distributed a list of materials that make up the amount in the expense budget for this account.

***Joseph Collamati/Carol Dill motion to recommend the budget of \$289,011, broken down as follows: \$89,161 for salaries and \$199,850 for expenses. VOTE: 6/0.***

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<sup>1</sup> Was Recommended by the Finance Committee, Funding as follows:

|              |      |                    |
|--------------|------|--------------------|
| \$370,000    | from | Ambulance Receipts |
| \$20,559     | from | Title V Receipts   |
| \$300,000    | from | Stabilization Fund |
| \$300,000    | from | Overlay Surplus    |
| \$42,248,454 | from | Taxation           |
| \$43,239,013 |      |                    |

Adjourned: *Raymond Szczepan/Joseph Collamati motion to adjourn. VOTE: 6/0.*  
9:30 p.m.

### Sale of Water to Mendon

#### Impact

|  |           |     |
|--|-----------|-----|
| Bellingham Pumping = 515.0 MGY = 1,400,000 GPD | 1,400,000 | GPD |
| Mendon Use 2006 = 10.0 MGY                     | 27,400    | GPD |
| Mendon (Current) as Percent of Bellingham      | 1.96%     |     |
| Mendon (Build Out) = 22.8 MGY=62,500 GPD       | 62,500    | GPD |
| Mendon (Build Out) as Percent of Bellingham    | 4.46%     |     |

#### Duration

|    |       |
|----|-------|
| 10 | Years |
|----|-------|

#### Expansion

##### Connections

|                           |     |             |
|---------------------------|-----|-------------|
| Existing Connections      | 138 | 10 MGY 2006 |
| Future Grist Mill Over 55 | 52  | 3.5 MGY Est |
| Additional Service Area   | 60  | 5.5 MGY Est |

#### Dollars

##### Use (Flow Based) Billing (Cost vs Revenue)

##### Costs

|                                      |            |              |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Max Cost to produce Additional Water | 1.50       | \$/K gallons |
| Min Cost to produce Additional Water | 0.85       | \$/K gallons |
| Estimate Annual Consumption          | 13,500,000 | K gallons    |
| Estimate Cost to Provide Water       | \$ 20,250  | Max Cost     |

##### Flow Revenue

|                                    |           |                  |
|------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Highest Rate Block FY08 (Proposed) | 4.15      | \$/1,000 gallons |
| Estimate Annual Revenue            | \$ 56,025 |                  |

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Estimated Annual Net Income / Profit Use | \$ 35,775.0 |
|--|-------------|

#### Dollars

##### Buy In/ Capacity Fee

|  |               |             |
|--|---------------|-------------|
| Fee (\$5/110 gpd/bedroom*.75%)               | \$ 412.50     | per bedroom |
| Existing (138 with 3 Bedrooms)               | \$ 165,000.00 | Total       |
| Grist Mill (52 with 2 Bedrooms)              | \$ 42,900.00  | Future      |
| Additional Service Area (60 with 3 Bedrooms) | \$ 74,250.00  | Future      |

##### Pay Off of Initial \$165,000

|   |              |             |
|---|--------------|-------------|
| Annually Pay 1/10th                     | \$ 16,500.00 | Annual      |
| Pay For New Connections as they connect | \$ 412.50    | per bedroom |

4/23/2007

K:\D\F\DRATES\Mendon SOW  
2007-04-23

(Accepted 6/25/2007)