



Finance Committee  
 Town of Halifax  
 499 Plymouth St.  
 Halifax, MA 02338

Meeting Minutes  
 Monday, April 25, 2016

	Gordon Andrews	Linda Braga	Mel Conroy	Nikki Newton	Stu Hall	Julianne Crawford	Vacant
Present	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

Others in Attendance:

Sandy Nolan, Town Accountant; Charlie Seelig, Town Administrator; Barbara Gaynor, Town Clerk; Jean Gallant, Library Director; Greg Tilley, Library Trustee; Suzanne Emerson, Agricultural Commission Member.

Chairman Gordon Andrews opened the meeting at 7:12pm.

The meeting was recorded by Area 58.

Reserve Fund Transfer

A Reserve Fund Transfer Request in the amount for \$1,500.00 was received from Charlie Seelig for a Health Insurance Consultant. The full expected costs are unknown at this time but he would like to be prepared if we are to move forward.

Stu Hall made a motion to approve the RFT. Seconded by Linda Braga. Motion passed unanimously.

7:15 Meeting with the Agricultural Commission

Suzanne Emerson was present to discuss the Commission's Article on Town Warrant requesting \$750.00 and to establish a separate line item in the Operating Budget. The Commission would like to purchase 8-10 signs showing that Halifax is a Farming Community and place them strategically around the town. The cost will be \$75.00 - \$100.00 per sign.

Mel Conroy made a motion to recommend. Seconded by Stu Hall. Motion passed unanimously.

7:30 Meeting with the Library

Jean Gallant and Greg Tilley were present to discuss a few things with the Finance Committee. First, Jean would like to have the Committee reconsider the IT position increase in hours that she asked for. She passed out another handout showing the importance of the IT Coordinator. \$315,630.00 is the number that they have to get to for

the state requirements. Mr. Tilley stated that by the time the IT increase has a large effect on the budget down the line; she will have proven the need for the extra hours. Benefits are not included in what the library needs to spend. The increase in hours puts the position into benefit status. There will be an increase in programming needs with the Community Room upgrade. Sandy feels it is a good place for the average person to go to get help. It helps the Community stay connected. If approved, the parking lot, switch, printer and laptop will all be removed from the budget.

Mel Conroy made a motion to reconsider Line 130 and 131. Seconded by Nikki Newton. Motion passed unanimously.

Line 130 – Mel Conroy made a motion to recommend \$156,578.00 for Library Wages. Seconded by Nikki Newton. Linda Braga voted no. Nikki Newton, Gordon Andrews, Stu Hall and Mel Conroy voted yes. Motion passed.

Line 131 – Mel Conroy made a motion to recommend \$156,578.00 for Library Expense. Seconded by Nikki Newton. Linda Braga voted no. Nikki Newton, Gordon Andrews, Stu Hall and Mel Conroy voted yes. Motion passed.

#### Articles

Article 27 – Mel Conroy made a motion to recommend. Seconded by Linda Braga. Motion passed unanimously.

Article 31 – Nikki Newton made a motion to recommend. Seconded by Linda Braga. Mel Conroy abstained from voting, all other members present voted yes. Motion passed.

Article 32 – Article passed by vote earlier in evening

Article 44 – Mel Conroy made a motion to reconsider. No second to the motion.

#### Kingston Police Station/Silver Lake Land Sale Discussion

They are looking to sell the South East core of the lot to Kingston for the construction of a new Police Station. It is 3 acres of contiguous uplands and 2 acres of wetlands. No buy out of houses will be necessary. The cost will be \$120,000.00 for the sq. ft. Gordon feels that there is no reason to sell. Eventually Silver Lake may need that land. The general consensus is that it is still not a good idea. Stu feels that you can argue the point both ways. It is good to have the Police Department near the school but it is good to have the land stay with Silver Lake.

Nikki Newton made a motion to enter in to Executive Session at 8:45pm. Seconded by Mel Conroy. All members voted yes by individual roll call vote.

Regular session resumed at 9:05pm.

Mel Conroy made a motion to adjourn at 9:06pm. Seconded by Stu Hall. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Mel Conroy  
Clerk