



Town of Medway

FINANCE COMMITTEE

155 Village Street
Medway MA 02053

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October 20, 2015 – 7:00 PM
Sanford Hall, Town Hall
155 Village Street

Present: Frank Rossi, Chair; Chris Lagan, Vice Chair; Meghan Hoffman; Ellen Hillery; Jeff O’Neill; Michael Schrader; and Jim Sullivan (via remote participation).

Absent: Todd Alessandri and Rohith Ashok.

Others Present: Michael Boynton, Town Administrator.

Chairman Rossi called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

At 7:15PM Mr. Lagan moved to open the public hearing for the Fall Town meeting Warrant Articles, Mr. O’Neill second. Seeing that there were no members from the public present, at 7:16PM Mr. Lagan moved to close the public hearing, Mr. O’Neil second.

Finance Committee Recommendation Voting – Fall Town Meeting Warrant Articles:

Mr. Boynton provided an update on the current town legal budget, stating that the majority of the funds available have been utilized. Mr. Boynton also made note that Exelon has agreed to reimburse the town in the amount of \$100,000 for legal expenses relating to the proposed plant expansion project. Mr. Boynton stated that the \$25,000 request in Article 1 of the fall town meeting Warrant will only be a partial fill in the legal budget as there will be more to do prior to the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Boynton anticipates a need for additional revenue to be moved into the legal budget account noting that the preference is to use free cash.

Mr. Boynton also wanted to make the committee aware that the Veterans agent will most likely have a shortfall again. The current case load is holding steady at 16 cases. Mr. Boynton stated that the hope for the next budgeting process is to bring the Veterans agent’s budget closer to actual needs rather than continuing the need to transfer in additional funding. Mr. Lagan inquired as to whether anyone was auditing the Veterans budget to ensure funds are being used in the best manner. Mr. Boynton stated that a request has been made to Holliston to have their auditing team review the books for the Veterans agent.

At this time Chairman Rossi requested that the committee begin voting on the warrant articles. The Committee reviewed, discussed and voted on the following articles.

Article 1 (Fiscal Year 2016 Operating Budget Transfers)

Jeff O'Neil moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 1 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Meghan Hoffman second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 2 (Purchase Dump Truck – DPS – Free Cash)

There was brief discussion regarding the certification of Medway's free cash, as well as discussion regarding that this would replace a 1999 dump truck.

Michael Schrader moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 2 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Jeff O'Neil second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 3 (Repair Winthrop Street Culvert – DPS – Free Cash)

Chris Lagan moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 3 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Meghan Hoffman second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 4 (Repurpose Funds: Water Meter Replacement Project to Water Main Replacement Project)

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 4 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Jeff O'Neil second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 5 (Repurpose Funds: Athletic Fields Project to High School Baseball Field Improvements)

Mr. O'Neil inquired whether this would complete the fields. Mr. Boynton stated that this was for improvements to the existing fields such as safety improvements and storage, not for replacement.

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 5 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Chris Lagan second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 6 (Repurpose CPA Funds: Athletic Fields Project to High School Baseball Field Improvements)

Chairman Rossi inquired if this would bring the balances to zero. Mr. Boynton stated there would be \$20,000 left over for washout maintenance on trails. Mr. O'Neil inquired why the cost was \$200,000 to rebuild and improve the storage on site. Mr. Boynton stated that this funding was for a very basic storage facility. Mr. Boynton estimated that the majority of the funding would be used to make the necessary safety improvements to the fields. The new storage facility would have lights, but no heat. Mr. O'Neil stated money for storage facility might be better allocated to installing bathrooms at the North Fields.

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 6 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Michael Schrader second; No discussion; 6-1-0 (Jeff O'Neil opposed)

Article 7 (Land Acquisition: 54R Adams Street)

Mr. Boynton stated that the land was currently vacant and predominantly wetlands or field.

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 7 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Chris Lagan second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 8 (CPA Appropriation: Ecological Study of Adams Street Area)

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 8 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Chris Lagan second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 9 (CPA Appropriation: Trail Design and Engineering)

Mr. O'Neil inquired about what the money will actually get the town. Mr. Lagan stated this would design the pathways and bridges for the trails as there were many wet areas. Mr. O'Neil pointed out that there would be an additional cost to the town to construct the trails. Ms. Hillery inquired whether the town exposed themselves legally in regards to ADA compliance. Mr. Boynton stated it was a valid issue but does not believe the town is opening themselves to legal issues.

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 9 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Michael Schrader second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 10 (CPA Appropriation: Storywalk)

Mr. O'Neil stated that vandalism of the kiosks was a big concern, and believed that more community outreach for CPA funded projects is needed. Mr. Schrader stated he found it difficult to support this as he did not envision this would be used enough.

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 10 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Chris Lagan second; No discussion; 4-3-0 (Michael Schrader, Chris Lagan and Jeff O'Neil opposed)

Article 11 (CPA Appropriation: Update Parks, Open Space and Athletic Fields Master Plan)

Mr. Boynton stated that the reason for the updated plan is that Senator Spilka made up to \$1,000,000 available to communities for use in parks and open space, however the town cannot access the funding without an updated plan. Ms. Hillery noted that one CPA member did not support Gale Associates participating in updating the master plan.

Michael Schrader moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 11 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Meghan Hoffman second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 12 (Funding for Library Makerspace)

Jeff O'Neil moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 12 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Meghan Hoffman second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 13 (Prior Year Bills)

Michael Schrader moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 13 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Meghan Hoffman second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 14 (Amend General Bylaw: Penal Laws)

Mr. Boynton stated that most towns do not give a fourth chance, that at the third offense it is \$300 per day.

Ellen Hillery moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 14 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Jeff O'Neil second; No discussion; 6-1-0 (Chris Lagan opposed)

Article 15 (Amend General Bylaws: Affordable Housing Trust)

Mr. Boynton clarified that this removes the funding cap, and will allow the Affordable Housing Trust to spend money already in their fund.

Chris Lagan moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 15 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Michael Schrader second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 16 (Street Acceptance: Pine Meadow Road and Lantern Lane)

Chris Lagan moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 16 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Meghan Hoffman second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 17 (Amend Zoning Bylaw – Additional Definitions)

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 17 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Michael Schrader second; No discussion; 6-1-0 (Chris Lagan opposed)

Article 18 (Revise Zoning Bylaws – Nonconforming Uses and Structures)

Mr. Boynton stated that this will just clean up and clarify old laws.

Michael Schrader moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 18 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Meghan Hoffman second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 19 (Amend Zoning Map – Multifamily Overlay District)

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 19 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Michael Schrader second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 20 (Amend Zoning Bylaws – Design Review Process)

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 20 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Michael Schrader second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 21 (Amend Zoning Bylaws – Sign Regulations)

Mr. Schrader inquired if this was related to the Route 109 redesign project. Mr. Boynton stated this would improve existing laws so that the process is clearly outlined, it also adds the table to the Bylaws.

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 21 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Ellen Hillery second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 22 (Amend Zoning Bylaws – Schedule of Uses Table)

Chris Lagan moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 22 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Michael Schrader second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 23 (Amend Zoning Bylaws – Registered Marijuana Dispensary Host Community Agreement)

Mr. Boynton stated that this facility would be for the purpose of growing only and that the property owner/operator would be responsible for ensuring proper security measures are taken.

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 23 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Michael Schrader second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 24 (Amend Zoning Bylaws – Home Based Business)

Mr. Boynton stated that this would make laws easier to understand, but would also prevent a property owner from operating a home based business from vacant property.

Meghan Hoffman moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 24 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Ellen Hillery second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Article 25 (Amend Zoning Bylaws – Adaptive Use Overlay District)

Mr. Boynton stated this change would allow current vacant buildings to be filled as some of the vacant buildings in town have interested parties, but potential business operations don't meet current Bylaws.

Chris Lagan moved that the Finance Committee approve Article 25 of the November 16, 2015 Fall Town Meeting Warrant; Meghan Hoffman second; No discussion; 7-0-0

Upcoming Meetings:

The next monthly meeting of the Finance Committee will be Wednesday November 4 at 7:00 PM in Sanford Hall.

After brief discussion, it was decided to hold the space for a meeting prior to town meeting in case something comes up that needs to be discussed. It was also discussed that if there is no business needing review, the November meeting could be cancelled.

At 9:30 PM Mr. O'Neill moved to adjourn; Ms. Hoffman seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.

Note: These minutes were created from notes taken by Meghan Hoffman, Member.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Galliardt
Night Board Secretary