

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes

Date: March 25, 2014

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Present: O'Connor, Kupcinkas, Girard, Bartosiewicz, Hebert, O'Connell

Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Motioned by Kupcinkas, seconded by Hebert to accept the minutes of March 18, 2014 as written.
Unanimous.

Motioned by Kupcinkas, seconded by O'Connell to pay a voucher, in the amount of \$40.00, from the Holden Landmark from the Finance Committee General Expenses account. Unanimous.

Brian Turbitt, Finance Director, was in to go over some of the financial warrant articles.

Warrant Recommendations

Article 5-Free Cash

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend to transfer the sum of Seven Hundred Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Eight Dollars and No Cents (\$708,878.00) from available certified free cash for the purposes of Article 5. Unanimous.

Article 6-Capital Improvement Projects

6.1-Road Repairs

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$100,000.00 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 6.1. Unanimous.

6.2-Police Department Computers

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$50,000.00 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 6.2. Unanimous.

6.3-School Department Technology Equipment

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$60,000.00 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 6.3. Unanimous.

Article 7-Medicaid Reimbursement

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$96,036.00 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 7. Unanimous.

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Article 8-Updating Master Plan

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$10,000.00 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 8. Unanimous.

Article 9-OPEB liability

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$8,000.00 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 9. Unanimous.

Article 10-Personal Property Damage or Incidental Personal Injury Claims

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$500.00 be transferred from Account #02-945-5200-02062-2012-560 for the purposes of Article 10. Unanimous.

Article 11-Disposal of Abandoned Property

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$5,000.00 be transferred from Account #02-945-5200-02068-2-13-560 for the purposes of Article 11. Unanimous.

Article 12-Elders Community Services Program

Daniel Girard: Does this money get used up?

Brian Turbitt: Yes, it does. We have more people that want to participate.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$20,000.00 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 12. Unanimous.

Article 14-Sewer Stabilization Fund

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend the sum of \$50,000.00 be appropriated from the Retained Earnings of the Sewer Enterprise Fund to the Sewer Stabilization Fund for the purposes of Article 14. Unanimous.

Article 15-Rescind borrowing article from 2013 STM Article 8

Brian Turbitt: The Finance Committee asked last year to have the Town make the first payment in this fiscal year. The DOR will not agree to borrow the money for books. We are changing our game plan on this and the technology articles.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Article 15 be accepted as written. Unanimous.

Article 16-Capital Project Account

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend the sum of \$122,815.00 be transferred from account #01-710-5910-00000-0000-571 Retirement of Debt Account for the purposes of Article 16. Unanimous.

Article 17-Transfer of Funds into Proper Payment Accounts

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend the sum of \$214,000.00 be transferred from account #01-710-5910-00000-0000-571 Retirement of Debt Account for the purposes of Article 17. Unanimous.

Article 18-Initial Payment for Fire Department Rescue Squad

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend the sum of \$22,185.00 be appropriated from Certified Free Cash for the purposes of Article 18. Unanimous.

Article 19-Revolving Funds

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Article 19 be accepted as written. Hebert opposed, rest for.

Article 21-Retroactive Wages for the DPW Department

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend the sum of \$16,389.48 be transferred from account #02-141-5780-02016-2013-500 for the purposes of Article 21. Unanimous.

Article 22-Retroactive Wages for the Sewer Department

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend the sum of \$4,867.30 be transferred from account #60-440-5200-00000-0000-530 for the purposes of Article 22. Unanimous.

Article 23-DPW-Prior Year Wages

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend the authorization of payment of \$3,614.57 from Snow and Ice Overtime Account #01-423-5130-00000-0000-530 for the purposes of Article 23. Unanimous.

Article 24-Sewer Department Movement of Funds from Previously Approved Capital Accounts

Brian Turbitt: The \$650,000 is related to the expansion project. There are allowable and non-allowable costs determined by the Upper Blackstone Trust. We need to transfer the excess balance into the Retained Earnings from the Capital Projects so it can be certified and we can fund a project without having to borrow.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend the sum of \$650,000.00 be transferred from account #37-000-3590-00000-0000-340 for the purposes of Article 24. Unanimous.

Michael O'Connor: Articles 25-28 will be on the ballot.

Brian Turbitt: You did ask for a breakdown on the cost to the tax rate for each of these. I should have it for you tomorrow.

Article 25-HVAC MOB

Jennifer O'Connell: Does this cover the Police Department?

Michael O'Connor: Bob said he would check on it for me.

Hold on this article until we hear back from Bob Spain.

Article 26-SCBA Fire Department

Jennifer O'Connell: When these go out to bid, do we have to take the lowest bid?

Michael O'Connor: They have quotes on this already. The Town Manager assured me that this will cover what is needed.

Jennifer O'Connell: Why does this have to be on the ballot and the warrant?

Michael O'Connor: We need permission to get it out of the Proposition 2-1/2 calculation. That is why it has to go on the ballot. It also has to be approved by the Town Meeting. If any or all of these articles gets a negative vote at the ballot, the Moderator will skip over them.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend an amount Three Hundred Forty Five Thousand Dollars (\$345,000.00) be appropriated and borrowed for the purposes of Article 26.
Unanimous.

Article 27-DPW Storage Tanks

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend an amount Three Hundred Sixty Four Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$364,800.00) be appropriated and borrowed for the purposes of Article 27. Unanimous.

Article 28-Transfer Station Upgrade

Jennifer O'Connell: Will we be required to have additional staff for the compactors?

Michael O'Connor: I don't think so, but I am not sure.

Steven Hebert: Should we defer this article to the Town Manager?

Michael O'Connor: I am not sure if the Finance Committee should defer any of these capital projects. If there are questions on these articles, I would assume that Bob Spain would get up and explain it.

Daniel Girard: Is this something that we have to do now, or is it something that could wait a year or so?

Michael O'Connor: This project will not affect the tax rate for a few years.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend an amount Three Hundred Ninety Six Thousand Fifty Dollars (\$396,050.00) be appropriated and borrowed for the purposes of Article 28.
O'Connell opposed, rest for.

Article 13-Blackstone Valley School District Expansion

Michael O'Connor: This would include the expansion of the amount of students in the school. The Chairman of the Upton Finance Committee called me and didn't want Blackstone Valley Tech to offer

anything that a student could take in College. I feel that a Vocational School gets the student ready for college programs. They are preparing the students to be successful in college.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend the approval of \$2,900,000.00 debt authorized by vote of the Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational School District Committee on April 17, 2014 for the purposes of Article 13. Unanimous.

Article 29-Sewer Reconstruction-Rt 146

Brian Turbitt: We removed this line from the budgets because the money in the budget must be used within a year. By creating an Article for this money, it gives us 2 years. I would ask that you not vote on this tonight since I am not sure if we can raise and appropriate money for a sewer project. I feel it should come from the Retained Earnings.

Article 30-Acquisition of corner parcel of Sutton Ave and West Main Street

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Article 30 be accepted as written. Unanimous.

Article 31-Lake Singletary

Jennifer O'Connell: I think Sutton approved their portion of the Lake.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Article 31 be indefinitely postponed. Unanimous.

Article 32-Diana Hill Drive Acceptance

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to defer Article 32 to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 33-Oakes Street Acceptance

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to defer Article 33 to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 34-Parcel A and Parcel B on the plan entitled "Plan of Land in Millbury and Sutton, Mass"

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Article 34 be accepted as written. Unanimous.

Article 35-Rezoning to Industrial I

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to defer Article 35 to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 36-Amend the Zoning Map-Rezoning to Business I

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinkas to defer Article 36 to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 37-Amend Zoning By-Laws, Article 2. District Regulations, Section 26.3

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to defer Article 37 to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 38-Amend Zoning By-Laws, Article 4-Special Regulations, Section 52

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to defer Article 38 to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 39-Amend Zoning By-Laws, Article 2. District Regulations, Section 25.22

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to defer Article 39 to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 40-Amend Zoning By-Laws, Article 4-Special Regulations 48.3

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to defer Article 40 to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 41-Amend Zoning By-Laws, Article 1 Administration and Procedure

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to defer Article 41 to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 42-Amend Zoning By-Laws Article 5 Definitions

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to defer Article 42 to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 43-Amend Zoning By-Laws Article 3 General Regulations

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to defer Article 43 to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 44-Chapter 43D of the MA General Laws-Priority Development Sites

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to defer Article 44 to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 45-Abolish Grave Opening Fee

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend that Article 45 be accepted as written. Unanimous.

Article 46-Ramshorn Pond Dam Repairs

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend that Article 46 be indefinitely postponed. Unanimous.

Michael O'Connor: I will take to Brian and try to get information on the articles that we held on tonight. My plan is to vote on the budget next week.

Daniel Girard: I will not be available next week.

Michael O'Connor: We are not going to be deliberating anything during Thursday's joint meeting. We will deliberate and vote the budgets on Tuesday, provided we get all of our figures from the Town Manager.

Motioned by Hebert, seconded by Girard to adjourn at 9:00 p.m. Unanimous.

Mr. Hebert
Albert P. Kupcinskas
Joseph O'Connell
John Barb
Steven P. Hebert