

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes

15 FEB 24 AM 8:44
TOWN OF LANCASTER
MILLIS, MASS

Date: September 15, 2014

Time: 7:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Hebert

Meeting called to order at 7:25 p.m.

Motioned by Kupcinkas, seconded by O'Connell to accept the minutes of June 23, 2014 as written. Unanimous.

Motioned by Kupcinkas, seconded by Girard to pay the annual dues for the Finance Committee to ATFC in the amount of \$204.00. Unanimous.

Discussion held about the Special Town Meeting

Michael O'Connor: The petitioned article does not request the Town Meeting to do anything. Bob Spain had the attorney review the article and he said that the Board of Selectmen is required to call a Special Town Meeting. The intent was to ask the Town Meeting to approve this. The article is not asking us to do anything. We would have no action on this because it is not asking us to approve or disapprove the article. If it were written correctly, we would defer the article to either the Board of Selectmen or the Police Chief.

Article 1-Police Department Details

Motioned by Kupcinkas, seconded by Girard to recommend that the article be deferred to the Board of Selectmen once the petition is amended. Unanimous.

Article 2-Board of Health-Clothing Bins

Motioned by Girard, seconded by Kupcinkas to defer Article 2 to the Board of Health. Unanimous.

Michael O'Connor: If we clear up all our business tonight, we will not need to meet on the 29th. We don't need to have a public hearing if there are no financial articles.

Video Recordings

Michael O'Connor: We have discussed this on two occasions over the past year. The Town Manager put out a memo last year about all meetings being recorded. The Town of Lancaster had an article in the paper concerning recorded meetings. The Attorney General made a ruling that it is not required for a public body to broadcast their meetings. Anyone can come in and record our meetings, if they choose to do so. I suggest the Finance Committee re-visit this at the beginning of each fiscal year.

Motioned by Kupcinkas, seconded by Girard to inform the Town Manager and Public Access Channel not to record the Finance Committee meetings for FY2015. Unanimous.

Approach to the FY2016 Budget

Michael O'Connor: I will write a letter to the town Manager and Superintendent with our questions concerning certain parts of the budget. This will give us the time to get the answers we need to make a decision for our recommendations. I would like to ask the Superintendent to provide all the reasons why Millbury must be 14% over the State average on NSS.

Jennifer O'Connell: I will e-mail you my questions.

Discussion concerning GIC, Health Insurance, and Pension Costs

Jennifer O'Connell: The issue is with revenue. We have no idea what money is coming in. I would like to see a breakdown on money coming in for the DPW. Asa Waters is another department I would like to look into.

Michael O'Connor: I will devise a couple of letters and we can discuss them at the October 7th meeting before the Special Town Meeting.

Motioned by Girard, seconded by O'Connell to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Unanimous.

Mark J. Allen
Albert P. Wapenski
John Banks
Dan [unclear]