

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes

Date: April 2, 2012

Time: 7:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Hebert

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

Tom Fox, Town Moderator, was in to hear the FY2013 Warrant Recommendations for the Annual Town Meeting, at 7:00 p.m.

Motioned by Kupcinkas, seconded by Gauthier to accept the minutes of March 26, 2012 as written.
Unanimous.

WARRANT ARTICLE RECOMMENDATIONS

Article 5-Free Cash

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Girard to recommend that Article 5 be accepted as written.
Unanimous.

Article 6-Capital Improvement Projects

1. Technology for the School Department

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$105,000 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 6.1. Unanimous.

2. 20-Passenger School Mini-Bus

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$50,000 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 6.2. Unanimous.

3. Road Repairs

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$100,000 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 6.3. Unanimous.

4. Highway Garage Roof

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$70,000 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 6.4. Unanimous.

5. Street Sweeper

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$166,900 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 6.5. Unanimous.

Article 7-Medicaid Reimbursement

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$96,578 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 7. Unanimous.

Article 8-Personal Property Damage or Incidental Personal Injury Claims

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$500 be transferred from Account #02.945.5200.02062.2011.560 for the purposes of Article 8. Unanimous.

Article 9-Disposal of Abandoned Property

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$5,000 be transferred from Account #02.945.5200.02068.2011.560 for the purposes of Article 9. Unanimous.

Article 11-Fund Transfers for FY12

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that the amounts of \$50,000 and \$28,000 be appropriated from available funds for the purposes of Article 11. Unanimous.

Article 12-OPEB Liability

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that the sum of \$8,000 be appropriated from available funds for the purposes of Article 12. Unanimous.

Article 13-FY12 Payment for Agricultural School

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that the sum of \$21,936 be appropriated from available funds for the purposes of Article 13.

Michael O'Connor: Brian was going to check the date on the invoice to see if we needed a 90% vote on it. The invoice is more than a year old.

Vote on the motion: Unanimous.

Article 14-Brierly Pond Repairs

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Article 14 be indefinitely postponed. Unanimous.

Article 15-Elders Community Services Program

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that \$20,000 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 15. Unanimous.

Article 16-Sewer Stabilization Fund

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that the sum of \$50,000 be appropriated from the Retained Earnings of the Sewer Enterprise Fund to the Sewer Stabilization Fund for the purposes of Article 16. Unanimous.

Article 17-Bond Anticipation Note for Rescue Truck

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that the sum of \$144,000 be transferred from the Debt Service Principal Account and \$8,250 transferred from the Debt Service Interest Account, both amounts to the Capital Project Account for the purposes of Article 17. Unanimous.

Article 18-Repair of Washington Street Playground

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to make the recommendation for Article 18 at the Annual Town Meeting.

Michael O'Connor: Laurie worked to get grants to get the land around this playground in 2009. The article was deemed an illegal article by Town Counsel because there was no money mentioned in the article. We changed the article on Town Meeting floor to include a dollar amount. This is the same thing. Laurie is working on a figure and we should have it for Town Meeting.

Tom Fox: You cannot change an article once it is published. If it gets changed by the Board of Selectmen tomorrow night with a dollar figure then you are covered. Otherwise you would need to indefinitely postpone it. I am surprised that I let that go through. The law states that you cannot change an article.

Motion and second were withdrawn.

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Article 18 be indefinitely postponed. Unanimous.

Michael O'Connor: Can we make a conditional vote tonight if the changes occur tomorrow night?

Tom Fox: I don't see why you couldn't. Then you would be covered either way.

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Article 18 be accepted as written if a figure is identified to be borrowed tomorrow night at the Board of Selectmen's meeting and if the Finance Director agrees that we can afford it. Unanimous.

Article 19-Oakes Circle Completion

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that an amount not to exceed \$99,902 be raised and appropriated for the purposes of Article 19. Unanimous.

Article 20-Public Way-Cronin Brook Way

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Article 20 be deferred to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 21-Public Way-Diana Hill Drive

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Article 21 be deferred to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 22-Public Way-Taft Circle

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Article 22 be deferred to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Tom Fox: Articles 23-26 are zoning bylaws and will need a 2/3 vote at Town Meeting.

Article 23-Zoning Bylaw-Article 1-Administration and Procedure, Section 12.41

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend that Article 23 be deferred to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 24-Zoning Bylaw-Article 4-Special Regulations, Section 46.2

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend that Article 24 be deferred to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 25-Zoning Bylaw-Article 4-Special Regulations, Section 51

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend that Article 25 be deferred to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 26-Zoning Bylaw-Article 1-Administration and Procedures, Section 12.49

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend that Article 26 be deferred to the Planning Board for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 27-Civil Service-Police Chief

Donald Gauthier: I have a problem with Section 3 which states that the Chief appoints his own Police Officers. I have a problem taking that away from the Board of Selectmen.

Michael O'Connor: That is what a "Strong Chief" is. This allows the Chief to run his own department. He would still have to answer to the Town Manager.

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend that Article 27 be deferred to the Board of Selectmen for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 28-Charter Change-Elected Officials

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend that Article 28 be deferred to the Board of Selectmen for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 29-PILOT

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend that Article 29 be accepted as written. Unanimous.

Article 30-General Bylaw-Chapter 13, Article I, Section 13-1-Alarm System By-Law

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinskaskas to recommend that Article 30 be deferred to the Police Chief for the recommendation. Unanimous.

Article 31-Solar Utility Purchase Agreement

Motioned by Gauthier, seconded by Kupcinkas to recommend that Article 31 be accepted as written. Unanimous.

Michael O'Connor: I will give Laurie a call in the morning concerning Article 18 and I will let the Town Manager know that the wording needs to be changed if Laurie has the figure.

Michael O'Connor handed out a draft of the Finance Committee letter to the Town Meeting for the Recommendation Book.

Michael O'Connor: We will find out tomorrow night which Article 18 is going to be used. I know that there is at least \$15,000 in donations that is available.

Albert Kupcinkas: What if we put in \$1,000 for a figure?

Michael O'Connor: If we do that, then that is the most that they can get.

Tom Fox: Why didn't they get a number before now?

Michael O'Connor: I think they figured that if they changed the article in 2009, then they would have the time to change it this year. We should have an answer tomorrow night. I don't think they will have the time to get the figures by tomorrow.

Michael O'Connor: Unless something unusual comes up, we won't have to meet again until May 1, 2012, the Town Meeting.

Motioned by Girard, seconded by Gauthier to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Unanimous.