

**Finance Committee
North Reading Town Hall, Room 5
Wednesday, September 19, 2012**

Present: Ms. Hurlbut, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Veneziano, Mr. Kelliher, Mr. Pulver, Mr. Wolpin and Mr. Duffy

Absent:

Guest: Jonathan Koppleman, Ms. Pavao, Finance Director, Board of Selectmen Mike Prisco and Joe Foti (also a member of the Board of Directors of the MWRA), Dick Carnevale, DPW Director and Mr. Balukonis, Town Administrator (7:30 pm)

Chair brought the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Mr. Carnevale had been advising the Finance Committee that EPA will be enforcing cities and towns to comply with new regulations regarding Water, Wastewater and Stormwater. Mr. Carnevale, Mr. Prisco and Mr. Foti gave the Finance Committee a power point presentation on the proposal for the North Reading Public Infrastructure. Mr. Carnevale talked about getting into the MWRA system but also keeping ties to Andover. With regard to costs associated in joining with MWRA, Mr. Carnevale said they wouldn't hookup North Reading for free but would help with financing the upfront costs. There was a discussion about funding the process required under these new regulations. Mr. Carnevale said the ENF could be funded from the J.T. Berry Fund, the Master Plan could be funded at Town Meeting and funds for Stormwater, of \$138,000, will be addressed in Article 10 at October Town Meeting. Mr. Carnevale said this funding will provide half the money needed but they will need another \$100,000 to complete the process. Mr. Duffy asked what would happen if the town doesn't comply. Mr. Carnevale said the town would be fined. Mr. Carnevale said that these improvements in the Water, Wastewater and Stormwater infrastructure could improve the economy in town up to \$1 Mil.

Mr. Kelliher moved to recommend Article 10. Mr. Duffy seconded the motion.

Discussion: Mr. Pulver asked if the grant monies being looked at now would be for parts of the project in the future, and was answered, yes. Mr. Johnson asked if the town wells could be abandoned. Mr. Carnevale said he could put them in "moth balls" if the town gets water from both Andover and MWRA. Mr. Veneziano asked if any extra monies made from the completion of the project could be designated to pay off the project. Mr. Prisco and Mr. Foti, along with Ms. Pavao said an enterprise fund could be established.

Voted: 7-0.

Ms. Pavao advised members that free cash has been certified.

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| General Funds | \$1,853,727 |
| Water – Enterprise fund | \$ 268,187 |
| Golf – Enterprise fund | \$ 580,654 |
| Parks & Rec – Enterprise fund | \$ 83,116 |

Mr. Veneziano moved to reconsider Article 2, seconded by Mr. Duffy, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Pulver moved to recommend Article 2 for \$242.41, seconded by Mr. Wolpin, and voted 7-0.

Mr. Veneziano moved to reconsider Article 4, seconded by Mr. Duffy, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Kelliher moved to recommend Article 4 for \$1,737,644 (\$585,354 from available funds and \$1,152,290 from borrowing), seconded by Mr. Wolpin.

Discussion: Mr. Pulver asked to address items individually. He said he is not in favor of the Class A Pumper truck. Mr. Wolpin asked how much spent to date on MUNIS. Ms. Pavao said she didn't know off hand but could look it up. Mr. Balukonis said the bill for MUNIS started off at \$200,000. Ms. Hurlbut said this is the last component. There was a discussion about what kind of pumpers the town already has. **Voted: 6-1-0, Mr. Pulver against.**

Mr. Veneziano moved to reconsider Article 5, seconded by Mr. Duffy, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Wolpin moved to recommend Article 5 in the amount of \$95,000 from Free Cash. Mr. Veneziano seconded the motion; and it was voted 7-0.

Mr. Wolpin moved to recommend Article 6 in the amount of \$100,000 from raise and appropriate, seconded by Mr. Pulver and voted 7-0.

Mr. Veneziano moved to reconsider Article 7, seconded by Mr. Duffy, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Pulver moved to recommend Article 7 in the amount of \$561,690 from free cash to debt capitalization; \$550,000 from free cash, \$11,690 from town-owned land. Mr. Veneziano seconded the motion. Voted: 6-1-0, Mr. Wolpin against.

Mr. Veneziano moved to reconsider Article 9, seconded by Mr. Duffy, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Duffy moved to recommend Article 9 in the amount of \$10,000 from Free Cash, seconded by Mr. Wolpin, and voted 7-0.

Mr. Wolpin moved to recommend Article 12 in the amount of \$100,000 from Free Cash, seconded by Mr. Veneziano, and voted 7-0.

Mr. Duffy moved to recommend Article 17, seconded by Mr. Pulver, and voted 7-0.

Mr. Veneziano moved to reconsider Article 3, seconded by Mr. Duffy, and voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Pulver moved to recommend Article 3 in the amount of \$451,258; \$21,677 in Free Cash, \$213,853 from raise & appropriate, \$15,728, from Hillview raise & appropriate, and \$200,000 from cell tower. Mr. Kelliher seconded the motion. Voted: 7-0

As an after thought, Mr. Veneziano asked what happened with the discussion of Police Cruisers. Mr. Kelliher explained that the two older vehicles are being replaced. Mr. Kelliher said next year the Finance Committee should really review the situation.

Mr. Pulver moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm, seconded by Mr. Johnson, and voted unanimously in favor.

Approved _____ dated _____