

Minutes  
STOW FINANCE COMMITTEE  
April 10, 2007  
Town Building

**Call to Order**

Charles Kern called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Present were, David Walrath, James Salvie, Gary Bernklow, and Elizabeth Tobey, Secretary.

Bill Nelson arrived at 7:08

Joseph Hogan arrived at 7:34

Henry Hagopian arrived at 7:40

Pamela Glauner arrived at 7:52

**Correspondence**

- Reserve Fund Transfer Request from the Police Department
- Copy of a letter to Pam from NRSD regarding the total assessment
- Bill from Community news for advertising

Dave moved to write a letter to NRSD regarding monies they are receiving to be distributed to towns. James Salvie seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously. (Kern, Walrath and Salvie)

**Approval of Minutes**

James Salvie moved to approve April 3, 2007 minutes as amended. David Walrath seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously. (Kern, Walrath and Salvie)

**Reserve Fund Transfer Requests**

Police Department – To pay for independent “Fitness for Duty” re-evaluation of an employee - \$3,690.50

This is a follow-up from the previous evaluation. It is for a re-examination of “Fitness for Duty” evaluation with a report to follow.

David Walrath moved to approve the Reserve Fund Transfer Request for the Police Department. James Salvie seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (Kern Walrath and Salvie)

**Liaison Reports**

School Building Task Force - David Walrath stated that the Selectmen are meeting regarding the Statement of Interest.

Community Preservation Committee – David Walrath stated that they had made some minor changes to their articles.

Planning – James Salvie spoke to Ernie Dodd regarding Assisted Living.

Reserve Fund – David Walrath stated the balance is down to \$25,400.12 at this time.

**Article 27 – ITAC –Purchase of Information Technology Equipment**

David Walrath moved to approve Warrant Article 27 – The purchase of information technology equipment. Jim Salvie Seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath and Salvie)

**Article 68 – Balance the Fiscal year 2008 Budget**

David Walrath moved to approve the budget as Bill Wrigley approved it. James Salvie seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath and Salvie)

**Review and Vote ITAC Special Article Appropriation**

James Salvie moved to approve \$5,000 special article appropriation in, 3 incremental payments for 3 years totaling approximately \$15,000. David Walrath seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath and Salvie)

### **Article 56 - General Bylaw Amendment – Personnel Administration Grievance Procedure**

There was a brief discussion regarding the changes in the article. At present the department has 5 working days to decide a grievance; the article will change it to 10 days.

The article uniformly improves the grievance process for non union employees.

David Walrath moved to approve Warrant Article 56. James Salvie seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath and Salvie)

### **Article 57 – General Bylaw Amendment – Police Regulations**

This article raises some fines and allows solicitors and canvassers without a permit to be arrested and/or fined for soliciting without a license.

David Walrath moved to approve Article 57. James Salvie seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath and Salvie)

### **Article 58 – General Bylaw Amendment – Fire Prevention Code**

David Walrath moved to approve Article 58. James Salvie seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath and Salvie)

### **Article 60 – Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Assisted Living Residence**

Dave moved to recommend in favor of Article 60. James Salvie Seconded the motion.  
The motion carried       4 for (Kern, Walrath, Salvie and Hagopian)  
                                      1 abstained (Glauner)

### **Article 63 – Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Use Regulations**

There was a brief discussion between members regarding the financial impact. James Salvie suggested that the Article will be pro business; it allows uses that are not allowed now.

James Salvie moved to approve Article 63. Pamela Glauner seconded the motion.  
The motion carried       3 for (Glauner, Kern and Salvie)  
                                      2 abstained (Walrath and Hagopian)

### **Article 49 – Senior Tax Relief**

Joseph Hogan stated he had spoken with Dotty Wilber and they want to double the current tax relief amount. The tax relief is for;

- Seniors over 70 and lived in town for 10+ years
- Veterans, spouses and dependents
- Handicapped and Blind

The town aggregate amount is \$25k and will go to \$50k

David Walrath moved to recommend approval of Article 49. Henry Hagopian seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Glauner, Salvie and Hagopian)

### **Article 50 – Voting Eligibility for Adjudicatory Hearings**

This article will allow members to skip one night of meetings and allow them to read the transcript or listen to tapes and still vote.

No vote taken at this time, more information needed.

### **Article 47 – Acceptance of Kingland Road Land for Recreational Use**

James Salvie moved to make a recommendation at Town Meeting. Pamela Glauner seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Glauner, Salvie and Hagopian)

### **Article 38 – Land Purchase – Snow Property**

No vote taken at this time, more information needed.

### **Article 39 – Development of Town Recreational Fields**

#### **Article 40 – Creation of Recreational Fields**

Pamela Glauner stated that the Finance Committee needs to make the recommendation clear that any reimbursement grants are slatted to go back into the project.

No vote taken at the time.

**Article 35 – Capital Requests**

David Walrath moved to recommend approval of Capital items 1 thru 9. Henry Hagopian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Glauner, Salvie and Hagopian)

Items 10 thru 12 to be deferred.

Pamela Glauner moved to approve Capital planning item 13 – Hale school repairs. James Salvie seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Glauner, Salvie and Hagopian)

Item 14 deferred.

**Article 36 – School Building – One site**

Pamela Glauner moved to approve warrant article 36. Henry Hagopian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Glauner, Salvie and Hagopian)

**Article 37 – School Building – Two sites**

David Walrath move to recommend rejection of article 37 unless article 36 has failed. Henry Hagopian seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Glauner, Salvie and Hagopian)

**Article 48 – Transfer of Land to the Conservation Commission**

Finance Committee will make a recommendation at town meeting.

**Warrant Report Review**

Charles Kern felt the representation of the debt schedule was simultaneously accurate but misleading.

**Action Item** – After Town Meeting go through the old warrants to find a typical range of what the debt services are.

Future Meetings

April 24, 2007

May 1, 2007

May 7, 2007 (Pre-Town Meeting, Annual Town Meeting)

**Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by David Walrath at 9:52 pm. James Salvie seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (Kern, Walrath, Glauner, Hagopian and Salvie)

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Tobey,  
Secretary