

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WAREHAM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: **October 24, 2011**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:25 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sam Gray, Clerk Pro Tem
 Frank Heath (Arrived at 6:30 P.M.)
 Dick Paulsen
 Bonnie Cottuli
 Donna Bronk
 Larry McDonald
 Rene Pickett (Arrived at 6:31 P.M.)

Members Absent: David Trudell
 Dominic Cammarano

III. WARRANT ARTICLES

A. Reconsiderations.

Discussion ensued re: why the request for buses was pulled out of Article 1. Mr. Paulsen understands that the outside bonding consultant told the Town Administrator that he could not do leasing operations (through bonding). Mr. McDonald understands there was also an issue re: the way the article was written (relative to six-month payments on the leases this remaining fiscal year) & there was no way of obtaining a partial year lease at this point. He understands that two buses may be sought later on.

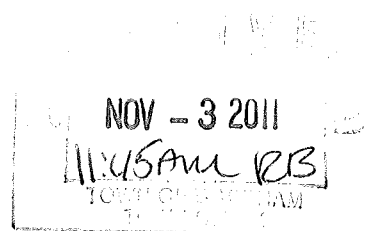
Mr. McDonald believes the FinCom should be reading motions from the original submittal, not the updated version because it seems some of the articles seem to have changed.

Ms. Bronk asked why all the proposed vehicles in Article 1 have been taken off. Mr. McDonald stated it is the same reason as why the buses were eliminated. He stated a concern was raised by the motion in the updated motions sheet for Article 1. The change was "vote to borrow". Ms. Cottuli stated reconsiderations of votes can be made per motion.

NOTE: Mr. Heath arrived at this time. Mr. Gray turned over the Chairmanship to Mr. Heath.

Ms. Bronk expressed concern re: the updated motion for Article 1 & Article 3. Mr. Heath explained that you can't borrow for leases. The remaining items that don't require a lease, can be borrowed for.

NOTE: Ms. Pickett arrived at this time.



Mr. Heath spoke re: Article 14 – Community Preservation: Debt Payment Tremont Nail & Bryant Farm. He stated the Treasurer has to cover all debt payments that are due. In the debt service, Tremont Nail & Bryant Farm payments are included. Article 14 will be voted as a consensus. The article is for the Community Preservation Committee to pay the mortgage of these two properties. When the CPC pays this, money will become available in the budget (approx. \$111,000 will come out of the debt service the Treasurer has). Any items in Article 1 will be paid for w/ this money; approx. \$90,000 worth. He explained the motion will be amended to add two school buses for leasing. It is a financial lease for \$21,000 for this year. Thus, the Town will be using money from debt service & any buses needed for the remainder of the year will be paid for through the School Department's revolving account. He noted each item in Article 1 will be voted on individually.

Mr. Gray stated the idea of leasing two buses & then coming up w/ a plan seems backwards. Mr. Heath stated there is a need for these buses.

Mr. Paulsen stated the issue is where the Town is spending money. He noted the Town will be receiving a bill from Plymouth County next year for \$89,000 w/ a possible extra charge of \$40,000 to \$50,000 more. He objects to not looking ahead to the future. He isn't in favor of continuing to vote for things until future responsibilities are dealt with.

Mr. McDonald expressed concern re: confusion for Town Meeting voters looking at the Warrant & then reading the motion handout. The articles have changed & he wonders if the FinCom should change their votes.

Discussion ensued re: Article 3 – Local Options Meals Tax. Ms. Cottuli expressed concern re: the motion stating the year 2014. Mr. Heath explained that it will take time for this article to go through the legislature.

MOTION: Ms. Bronk moved the FinCom go back to the original motion for Article 3.

NOTE: There was no second.

Mr. McDonald stated the motion should say 2013.

Ms. Bronk withdrew her motion.

MOTION: Mr. McDonald moved to modify the motion for Article 3 to read the year 2013. Ms. Bronk seconded.

Mr. Heath stated the legislature goes by bi-annual session & this article may not get to the floor until 2013.

**VOTE: (6-1-0)
Mr. Heath opposed**

MOTION: Ms. Cottuli moved to amend the motion for Article 1 to include the leasing of two school buses. Mr. Gray seconded.

Mr. Paulsen expressed concern re: still not having figures & a need for a preventative maintenance program. He is opposed to spending money on anything until it is known where the Town is financially, a report is furnished, & a plan for maintenance is produced. Mr. Heath noted there will be a committee formed to come up w/ a plan re: buses. Ms. Bronk stated she tends to lean w/ Mr. Paulsen. Mr. Gray stated he also tends to lean w/ Mr. Paulsen, but he understands the children needs to get to school. Mr. McDonald feels the FinCom should not be voting on any capital expenditures w/out knowing where, when, & how, but, as a parent of a school-aged student, he may have to abstain.

Mr. Gray stated he would rather not have the FinCom make this motion.

VOTE: (2-5-0)

Mr. Paulsen, Ms. Bronk, Ms. Pickett, Mr. McDonald, & Mr. Gray opposed

Mr. Heath spoke re: a recent letter from Powers & Sullivan. Brief discussion ensued.

B. Articles w/ no previous votes.

No discussion.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Cottuli moved at 6:50 P.M. to recess the meeting until the Chair calls the meeting back to order. Ms. Bronk seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous (7-0-0)

NOTE: The meeting reconvened from recess at 10:05 P.M. on October 25, 2011. Mr. Gray was in attendance & recorded the proceedings.

MOTION: Mr. McDonald moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 P.M. Ms. Bronk seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous (7-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Barrasso
Kelly Barrasso, Transcriptionist

Date signed: 11/2/11

Attest: Sam Gray

Sam Gray, Clerk

WAREHAM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date filed: 11/3/11
Date copy sent to Town Clerk: 11/3/11