

Finance Committee Meeting  
March 9, 2009

Attendees: John Bladon, Cherry Karlson, Bob Lentz, Sam Peper, Sue Pope, Rich Stack  
Absent: David Gutschenritter  
Also in attendance: Michael DiPietro (Finance Director)

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm.

A public hearing on the Special Town Meeting articles commenced with questions from the public.

- (A) Article # 1: Approval of a Stabilization Fund by the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School District. Selectman Correia stated that all 16 school districts within the Minuteman district were being asked to approve funds for a stabilization fund. While no definitive information on how these funds would be used was not forthcoming. With the approval of this article, Minuteman would be allowed to set up a stabilization fund with only 50% of the 16 towns voting in the affirmative. The Board of Selectmen had not voted on this article as on March 9<sup>th</sup>.
- (B) Article #2: Amendment of Article 23 of the ATM – Mixed Use Overlay District. The wording of this article is exactly the same as the ATM article that was removed from the ATM to the Special Town Meeting. This would allow a change in zoning by-laws to allow the town to have one pharmacy with a drive-up window (lane). The Planning Board voted their approval for the ATM but has not yet voted on the STM article. This would require a 2/3 vote at town meeting.
- (C) Article # 3: Acquire and Dispose of Wastewater Treatment Plant Site. This article would allow the town to accept the land. The parcels of land are both within the Town Center. A map of this land will be included in the warrant. A 2/3 vote is required at town meeting. The Board of Selectmen have given their sense of approval.
- (D) Article # 4: Accept Law Allowing Historic District Commission Members to Miss One Session of Adjudicatory Hearings. (often called Mullin Law) This is a “housekeeping” article regarding members who miss a meeting.
- (E) Article # 5: Authorize Town to Indemnify Massachusetts School Building Authority. This would allow the School Committee to enter into an agreement with the MSBA (as required by the MSBA) for a feasibility study for the high school. The town must accept this agreement if the town is to receive 40% reimbursement from the state. Town Counsel Lanza is currently looking at the contract for indemnity liability. The School Committee had not voted on this article at the time of the hearing.
- (F) Article # 6: Cochituate Architectural Preservation District By-Law. Lead petitioner Rebecca Butler presented this article. The article was removed from the ATM to the STM. The article differs from an historic district by-law and would be preserving older architectural buildings (homes) in certain areas of Cochituate. This article calls for a 10 member commission to oversee the use of

the by-law. It was noted that not all residents, whose property would be included, were notified of this article. It has not had a public hearing in the neighborhood. Many questions were asked and many questions unanswered.. Questions were about liability of the town, would churches and businesses be included, can town legislate land taking. Very few communities have such a by-law. Town Counsel Lanza will be reviewing this article.

The hearing adjourned at 7:50 and the Finance Committee met with the Board of Selectmen in a public hearing regarding the two debt exclusion questions. Sam Peper gave an overview of the questions.

Question #1: "Shall the Town of Wayland be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to finance feasibility, schematic design and related services to rehabilitate the Wayland High School?"

Question # 2: "Shall the Town of Wayland be allowed to exempt from the provision of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued in order to (i) repair municipal and school buildings and athletic fields; (ii) pay for appraisal services relative to a physical inspection and measurement of taxable real property; and, (iii) purchase an ambulance and advanced life support equipment?"

Both ballot questions are tax-neutral (no impact on tax bills)

Public comment followed the presentation .

The public hearing adjourned at 8:30.

The Board of Selectmen voted 5-0 to support Question # 1 and voted 5-0 in support of Question # 2.

The Finance Committee reconvened and voted approval of the March 2<sup>nd</sup> minutes. Vote: 6-0.

The Finance Committee discussed in great length the articles and comments presented for STM.for inclusion in the warrant.

Article #1 voted not to support. Vote: 6-0

Article #2 voted to support. Vote : 6-0

Article # 3 voted to support. Vote: 6-0

Article # 4 voted to support. Vote: 6-0

(Member David Gutschenritter joined the committee at 8:55)

Article # 5: voted to support. Vote: 7-0

Article # 6 voted to support. Vote: 0-7

Discussion and comments were offered on the annual Chairmans Report of the Finance Committee. The committee will also be submitting an op-ed article to the Town Crier.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be March 23rd.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan W. Pope

