

TOWN OF WAYLAND
Finance Committee Minutes
Regular Session
March 23, 2009

Attendees: John Bladon, David Gutschenritter, Cherry Karlson, Susan Pope, Richard Stack, Sam Peper and Finance Director, Michael DiPietro

Absent: Bob Lentz

The meeting was called to order at 7:02. There was no public comment.

Minutes of the March 9th meeting were approved. Vote: 6-0

The Finance Committee voted to enter Executive Session at 7:04.

Motion was made to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining;

A roll call vote was taken:

Peper:	yes
Pope:	yes
Stack:	yes
Karlson:	yes
Gutschenritter:	yes
Bladon:	yes

At 7:44 the committee reconvened in open session.

1. George Harris met with the Finance Committee to discuss the recent article appearing in the March Boston Magazine regarding home values and desirable places to live in the Boston area. Also in attendance during that discussion were Molly Upton and Lynn Dunbrack . Discussion pursued on the high taxes, property values and the Warren Group and their assessment of suburban towns. It was felt that Wayland has much to be proud of and that Wayland must begin to market itself in a more positive light.
2. Zack Ventress addressed the committee, via a conference call, (Zack was in Texas on a business trip) regarding the benchmark presentation he has been doing on peer town comparisons. The committee reviewed peer town selection analysis. For true analysis, one must look at communities who have successful overrides, average tax bills, a percentage of free cash, net of state aid per capita, and general fund per capita. Zack will incorporate these suggestions and meet again with the committee for further discussion.
3. Discussion followed on the guest column for the Crier on the importance of passing the debt exclusion questions. Voted to approve the column. 6-0

4. The meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Susan W. Pope