



Town of Wayland Massachusetts

Finance Committee

John Bladon
Paul Grasso
Dave Gutschenritter
Cherry Karlson
Bob Lentz
Sam Peper
Rich Stack

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes March 22, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM in the Wayland Town Building.

Attendance: J. Bladon, P. Grasso, D. Gutschenritter, C. Karlson, B. Lentz, S. Peper, R. Stack

Also Present: Finance Director/Town Accountant, M. DiPietro

Public Comment: Betty Salzberg referenced an email she sent concerning the electronic water meter reading proposal. Her concern centered on what was covered in the proposal and what wasn't. She was also concerned about the cost of the meters to be used. After some discussion, the Committee suggested that she follow up with the DPW for clarification.

She also questioned if the residents of Wayland were fully aware of the total cost of the beach house being proposed for the town beach.

Alan Reiss then spoke in support of the warrant article supporting electronic voting at town meeting. His presentation centered on the advantages of electronic voting and the benefit to the town if electronic voting was adopted. He asked that this expenditure be considered as part of the CIP, while acknowledging the timing of the request.

He handed out a Cost vs. Return on Investment Model (this model can be found on the website www.ElectronicVoting.info) which was intended to show how the initial cost of the system would be recouped over time through savings both to the town in reduced town meeting costs and to the voters whose time was not consumed by the lengthy standing votes currently used. Questions were asked concerning how the cost and savings estimates were derived and the estimated life of the equipment. Also discussed was the comparison of renting versus owning.

Minutes: The minutes of March 25, 2010 were reviewed. Motion and second to approve the minutes as amended. Vote 7-0.

FY 11 Capital Request for Beach House Project: Discussion ensued concerning the need to include the beach house as part of the Beach Front capital budget request imbedded in the FY 11 debt exclusion recommendation. An updated cost breakout was reviewed that showed the various components of the project without the beach house. It was clarified that \$550,000 has already been appropriated for the Beach Front project. Discussion centered on the value to the town of having such a facility to support activities at the Town Beach versus the cost and the competing needs of the town. It was decided that additional information was needed to confirm/verify the potential rental income stream that such a building could generate as well as further comments from the Recreation Commission. S. Peper left the meeting at 7:56 pm to speak to the Recreation Commission.

Discussion of the following Annual Town Meeting articles ensued:

- a. Article # 30 – Amendment of Zoning Bylaw Section 198-1102.1.1.1.1 Re: Auto Service Stations. It is being suggested that this article may be withdrawn or passed-over. No action taken.
- b. Article # 14 – Establish Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund and Article # 37 – Amend Town Code to establish Wayland Housing Trust, Inc. Work is ongoing to see if these two articles can be combined. Issues include among other things the composition of the trust and how the trustees are chosen: appointed or elected. No action taken.

- c. Article #19 – Amend Town Code Re: Department of Public Works. When this article was presented at the Warrant Article hearing, significant discussion took place concerning the impact of the creation of the DPW on the appointment of members to the Community Preservation Committee (CPC). To comply with the Town bylaw establishing the CPC, a compromise was reached whereby the CPC membership will be increased to 9 members from 7. Finance Committee recommended approval as amended by a vote of 7-0.

Sam Peper returned to the meeting at 8:05 pm and reported that the Recreation Commission had already adjourned their meeting. Cherry Karlson left the meeting at 8:13 pm to attend the Board of Selectmen meeting.

- d. Article #27 – Transfer and Lease the Recreation Portion of the Loker Conservation and Recreation Area. Discussion centered around the form and structure of the agreements to transfer the land amongst the interested parties; the Recreation Commission, the Board of Selectmen, and 30REC. Also discussed was the amount and form of compensation amongst the various parties involved as well as any issues that may arise which date back to the property's ownership by Dow Chemical. No action taken.

Cherry Karlson returned to the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Sam Peper presented a draft of the Report of the Finance Committee to be included in the Warrant Article. The draft was reviewed and was well received. Comments were offered and Sam agreed to consider them in the next draft.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:26pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Gutschenritter