



# TOWN OF WAYLAND

41 COCHITUATE ROAD  
WAYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS 01778

Finance Committee  
John Bladon  
Cherry C. Karlson  
Paul Grasso  
Dave Gutschenritter  
Robert L. Lentz  
Sam H. Peper  
Richard M. Stack

## Finance Committee Meeting Minutes February 22, 2010

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

**Absent:**

**Also present:** Finance Director, M. DiPietro

The Finance Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:00PM in the Large Meeting Room for purpose of presenting the FY 11 Omnibus Budget.

### 1. Omnibus Operating and Capital Budget Presentation:

Sam Peper presented the slide summary of the operating and capital budgets, with explanations of cost drivers and savings targets achieved by department (the slides can be found on the FinCom website: <http://www.wayland.ma.us/accounting/FY11BudgetDocs.htm>).

Public Comment:

Betty Salzberg asked for clarification for the description of the “old” landfill capping project.

Anette Lewis had several questions specific to increases from FY 10 in the budget and line item clarification:

- DPW increases for salaries (Mike DiPietro defined this as overtime-related)
- DPW increases for supplies (salt & sand)
- A request to specify unclassified costs by department. Richard Stack replied that the allocation methodology is not defined and it may provide enough clarity to centralized costs if they are spread over several departments)
- Why is the Wastewater Mgmt Commission included as a separate budget item if it is an enterprise fund?
- Could more detail be provided on capital budget line items? Cherry Karlson responded that a separate public meeting to review department-specific budgets occurred in January and that all capital items are posted on-line.
- Is the North Cemetery paving budget sufficient given past costs?
- Will the public have more opportunity to review the meter-reading capital budget and its effects prior to Town Meeting?
- In general, the public needs more time and opportunity to review the omnibus budget before it is approved in the Warrant

Michael Tichnor thanked the Finance Committee for its work toward recommending a “responsible budget” for the Town

### 2. Regular Meeting, convened at 7:48PM

a) No Public Comment

b) Minutes from February 8 Meeting were reviewed:

- Richard Stack asked that article names (not just numbers) that were assigned to FinCom representatives be listed
  - Motion made and seconded to approve Minutes, 6-0 (P. Grasso abstained)
  - Executive Session minutes from February 8 were moved to be approved by Sam Peper; Cherry Karlson seconded. Minutes were approved 6-0 (P. Grasso abstained)
- c) Sam Peper reviewed a debt exclusion memo to be sent to the BoS. John Bladon moved at approve the memo; Bob Lentz seconded. Memo was approved for distribution to BoS, 7-0
- d) A lengthy discussion was had with the Petitioners for proposed Article 39, which called for an independent audit of the Schools' budget and actual expenses. Petitioners present were John Flaherty, Shawn Kinney, and Donna Bouchard.
- Paul Grasso and Cherry Karlson provided their background understanding of the Article based on meetings and discussions with the Petitioners.
  - PG and CK presented the option of a Resolution instead of an Article to address this issue
  - Questions from various FinCom members to the Petitioners addressed concerns about clarification of the scope of the audit; whether an "audit" was appropriate as compared to an operational review which may be more likely to generate savings through elimination of redundancies and clear identification/correlation of budget drivers to line-item expenses; whether the cost of such an audit or review would be prohibitive due to undefined or too broad of a scope; and further understanding, definition, and responsibilities of the proposed Audit Committee (included in Article language)
  - Petitioners would work to incorporate suggestions and clarifications into adjusted Article
  - Paul Grasso would work further with Petitioners, FinCom, and School Committee to define focus of audit/review in terms of scope, content, and expected output
3. **Executive Session:** At 9:10pm, a motion was made and seconded to enter executive session as permitted by M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23B, paragraph three, for the purpose of discussing strategies with respect to collective bargaining because a public discussion of these matters will have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Town. FinCom will return to open session for the purposes of adjourning. A role call vote was taken.
- Peper: Yes  
Lentz: Yes  
Gutschenritter: Yes  
Grasso: Yes  
Karlson: Yes  
Bladon: Yes  
Stack: Yes
- Also in attendance, Mike DiPietro.

The FinCom returned to open session at 10:12pm and adjourned for the evening.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Paul Grasso