

# Town of Wayland Massachusetts

## **Finance Committee**

Paul Grasso Thomas Greenaway David J. Gutschenritter Cherry C. Karlson (Chair) Sam H. Peper Richard M. Stack Bill Steinberg

> Finance Committee Meeting Minutes February 14, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 pm in the Selectmen's Conference Room at the Wayland Town Building.

Attendance:P. Grasso, B. Steinberg, R. Stack, S. Peper and M. DiPietro.Absent:C.Karlson (joined at 7:47 PM), T. Greenaway (joined at 7:40 PM) and D. Gutschenritter.

Public Comment: No Public Comment.

### Discussion of Articles for Annual Town Meeting:

Article 10, Accept Gifts of Land: Write-up submitted by Sam Peper. Approved 4 – 0.

Article 11, Accept Law Increasing Real Estate Tax Exemption Amounts: Write-up submitted by Sam Peper. Approved 4 – 0. Article 14, Adopt Bylaw Allowing User Fee Bills to be Sent with Property Tax Bills: Write-up submitted by Sam Peper. It was noted that the term MUNIS needs to be replaced by the term VADAR, which is the appropriate software system that will be used to coordinate billing between departments. A motion was made that the Article write-up shall state how this Article will be funded and at what cost. With those changes, the Finance Committee approved the write-up 4 – 0.

Tom Greenaway joined the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Article 16, Amend Special Act Establishing Department of Public Works by Merging Wastewater Management District Commission with Board of Public Works: submitted by . This was presented for discussion and not for a vote. Open questions are whether the DPW Board will be overburdened by assuming the increased workload and whether the DPW Board has voted in favor of this Article. Both the DPW and the WMDC need to be advocates.

Cherry Karlson joined the meeting at 7:47 PM during the discussion of Article 16.

Article 26: Appropriation of MtBE Litigation Settlement Monies for Water Main Improvement in Cochituate: there was a general discussion of the Article and a consensus that it does not seem consistent to use settlement funds for a non-water item to pay for water related improvements.

### Debt Exclusion Presentation to Board of Selectmen:

Cherry Karlson reported on her presentation of the Finance Committee's recommended Fiscal Year 2012 debt exclusion

recommendation to the Board of Selectmen (BoS). The BoS is pleased that the proposed debt level will result in a decrease in new debt service compared to the debt coming off of the books and is also pleased that there will not be an override.

### Discussion of the Status of the Audit by Abrahams of the School Budgeting Process:

There was a discussion of the status of the Abrahams audit and the additional funds being requested to expand the scope of their work as proposed in Article 28 for the Annual Town Meeting, Restatement of FY 2011 School Department Budget. The Finance Committee would like the deliverable that might come from this Article to be defined such that it does not create an undue burden on the department staff and that it does not create the need to add staff and therefore increase the actual cost of the audit beyond the amount being requested.

Adjourn: At 9:34 PM a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

William Steinberg