



# 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 22, 2012

Attendance: C. Karlson (Chair), B. Steinberg, T. Greenaway, D. Gutschenritter, P. Grasso (7:05), S. Peper, R. Stack, M. DiPietro (Finance Director)

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M in the Senior Center, Town Building

### 1. Public Comment

- Anette Lewis, Claypit Hill Rd.: We need a better understanding of the Unclassified budget and the levels of reporting the numbers. She was provided benefits information as part of a public records request. The numbers do not match, for instance health insurance is lumped as single and family plans together. We need to understand what it is costing us for employees. R. Stack asked where she got the numbers. A. Lewis answered the town's Schedule A, part 1 for 2011.
- Kim Cook, Ellie Lane, stated she is still concerned about our vote on Article K to Amend Town Code 19. T. Greenaway will get together with her to draft her objections to the Article. C. Karlson, we will vote the 27th. K. Cook also asked if she could submit comments in opposition to the budget.

2. **Minutes:** The minutes of February 13, 2012 will be voted on at a future meeting.

### 3. ATM 2012: discussion of warrant articles:

- **Article CPA2, Appropriate Funds for Due Diligence Efforts for Pre-Permitting and Potential Sale of Town-Owned Land on Boston Post Road:** B. Steinberg submitted draft for discussion and explained the proposed project and estimated costs. Expenses will be shared with CPC. A motion was made and seconded to recommend appropriation of \$360,000 for this article. Vote: 7-0.
- **Article C, Definition of Refuse Disposal District:** B. Steinberg gave the committee a status update on this article. The Planning Board is discussing the parking, building height and setbacks. The article is not yet ready for a FinCom vote.
- **Article D1, Resolution Designating River Road Parcel for Future DPW Facility:** B. Steinberg outlined the pros and cons of this resolution including neighbors' concerns. Passage of this article allows the Economic Development Committee to move forward with the proposal. A motion was made and seconded to recommend approval of this article. Vote 7-0.
- **Article D2, Appropriate Funds for DPW Construction Documents:** B. Steinberg led a discussion of the merits of this article and sought advice on organizing and drafting the write-up. The article is not yet ready for FinCom vote.

- **Article E, Resolution in Support of Funding Electronic Voting:** R. Stack reviewed the resolution language. After discussion and edits to the write-up, a motion was made and seconded to recommend approval of this resolution with the understanding funding needs to be reviewed and approved with each budget. Vote: 7-0.
- **Articles CPA3 (Stonebridge Road) and CPA1 (CPA set aside)** were discussed briefly. R. Stack explained the outstanding questions on the Stonebridge Road project and stated he only needed final numbers to finalize the set aside write-up.
- **Article K, Budget Preparation and Review:** R. Stack is still waiting for petitioners' comments before he can bring this before FinCom.
- **Article B, Create Stabilization Fund for Minuteman Regional Vocational-Technical High School:** S. Peper updated the committee on this article and the committee questioned how the SC felt on this subject. S. Peper will talk to M. Castagno over the weekend to get her opinion on the article, and C. Karlson will check with the SC. No vote taken.
- **Article G, Sale of Land at 24 and 26 Lakeshore Drive:** D. Gutschenritter reviewed the discussion points on this article. The petitioners and neighbors will speak in support of the article at ATM. Motion made and seconded to recommend approval of the article. Vote: 7-0.

Discussion on other Articles to be held over to the next meeting. Two members gave updates:

- **Article D3, Appropriate Funds for New DPW Maintenance and Storage Facility:** B. Steinberg will meet with representatives over the weekend and firm up cost distribution of the initial appropriation.
- **Article CPA4, Reduce CPA Amount:** S. Peper asked for a sense of the meeting to understand members concerns with this article. The sense of the meeting was opposed to the CPA reduction for various reasons (e.g. state matching monies, potential to negotiate for Mainstone Farm, purpose of CPA enactment). S. Peper will work on the write-up.

#### 4. **FinCom Members' and Finance Director reports and concerns**

- C. Karlson is working on the FinCom report and asked the committee for input on what should be included. The overall consensus was that we need the report to be factual yet not too long and drawn out. We need to incorporate detail on the capital budget, our new auditing process, our financial strategies, a summarization of the FinCom goals, discussion of balancing long term goals with short term political pressures, recognition that we can't make everyone happy, explain what happened at STM and what we learned from that meeting, and stress the message about what our committee does as a whole.

#### 5. **Chairman's update:** The following items were brought to the attention of the Chair since the agenda was posted.

- Anette Lewis sent an email to C. Karlson requesting benefit information for employees (mentioned in Public Comment). C. Karlson worked with J. Senchyshyn and developed a response. C. Karlson will distribute the response to the FinCom.
- Tony Boschetto sent an email expressing concern about the information about pensions and the town contributing an additional \$1M. D. Gutschenritter is drafting a response.
- Kent George sent an email questioning why we need to maintain a Moody's Aaa rating. D. Gutschenritter drafted a summary as to why we should maintain the Aaa Bond rating; we need to look at the total debt portfolio. It was agreed that this piece should be finalized and posted online.
- George Harris sent an email requesting the resumes and qualifications of everyone on the FinCom board. The Town Administrator will provide what is on file.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marilyn Carr and Cherry Karlson