



Town of Wayland Massachusetts

Finance Committee

- Tom Abdella
- Carol Martin
- Nancy Funkhouser
- Bill Steinberg
- Gil Wolin
- Tom Greenaway (Chair)
- David Watkins

MINUTES

Thursday, February 26, 2015

Note: The meeting was videotaped for later broadcast by WayCAM.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Town Hall. Present: Funkhouser, Greenaway, Martin, Watkins, Wolin, Brian Keveny, Finance Director. Absent: Abdella, Steinberg

Public Comment: Anette Lewis spoke on the question of the number of FTEs in the School Department and urged the Finance Committee to post its budget documents online. Mr. Greenaway noted that Ms. Lewis' comment on the posting of the budget documents was well taken, and he asked the Finance Director to ensure the documents were posted.

Discuss & Vote Article Recommendations & the Report of the Finance Committee: (Note: Some article numbers may not match the numbers in the warrant because of late article drops)

The Committee discussed Article 21, *Amend Chapter 193 – Stormwater and Land Disturbance Bylaw*. Sherre Greenbaum and Brian Monahan had circulated a document that responded to several of the questions that had been raised at Monday's meeting. Discussion followed. After a motion and a section, the Committee voted to recommend approval of Article 21 at Annual Town Meeting. Vote: 4-1.

The Committee next discussed Article 33, *Appropriate Funds to Create Stewardship and Land Management Plans for Conservation Land*. Gretchen Schuler, Sherre Greenbaum, and Brian Monahan explained the purpose and the history behind the article. Mr. Watkins inquired about follow-up planning or actions to follow this planning exercise. After discussion, a motion, and a second, the Committee voted to recommend approval of Article 33 at Annual Town Meeting. Vote: 5-0.

The Committee next discussed Article 18, *Withdraw from Minuteman Regional Vocational School District*. Mr. Wolin presented the writeup. Mary Ellen Castagno, the Wayland Representative to the Minuteman School Committee, also spoke, in favor of the article. Mr. Watkins suggested a con argument be added to the writeup, to which Mrs. Castagno objected. After discussion, the Committee added the suggested "con" argument to the writeup, and at Mrs. Castagno's request, removed any mention of the fact that Wayland's representative to Minuteman supports the passage of the article. After further discussion, a motion, and a second, the Committee voted to recommend approval of Article 18 at Annual Town Meeting. Vote: 4-0-1.

The Committee next discussed Article 30, *Amend Chapter 36 of the Current Bylaws*, which would change the window in which Annual Town Meeting could be held. Alice Boelter, lead petitioner, discussed the article with the Committee, and Ms. Lewis added some perspective on the historical timing of Annual Town Meeting. After discussion, a motion, and a second, the Committee voted to recommend approval of Article 30 at Annual Town Meeting. Vote: 3-2.

The Committee next discussed Article 20, *Amend Bylaw re: Reconsideration of Articles by Town Meetings*, which would change the standard and quantum of vote for allowing reconsideration at Annual Town Meeting. George Harris, lead petitioner, explained the purpose for and his understanding of the article with the Committee. After discussion, a motion, and a second, the Committee voted to recommend approval of Article 20 at Annual Town Meeting. Vote: 4-1.

The Committee next discussed Article 15, *Implement Solar Energy: Power Purchase and License Agreement and Authorization for PILOT*. John Harper, member of the Energy Committee, discussed the article with the Committee. After discussion, a motion, and a second, the Committee voted to defer recommendation of the Article until Annual Town Meeting, in order to allow Mr. Watkins to refine his evaluation of the proposal.

The Committee next discussed Article 32, *Town will Enforce Lowest Speed Limit Allowed by Law*. Duane Galbi, lead petitioner, explained the purpose for and his understanding of the article with the Committee. After discussion, a motion, and a second, the Committee voted to take no position on Article 32 at Annual Town Meeting. Vote: 5-0.

The Committee voted to reconsider the FY16 Operating Budget after a motion and a second, (vote 5-0) in order to include the final retirement assessment from West Suburban, which varied by \$4,600 from the draft assessment the Committee had been carrying in the prior budgets. After a brief discussion, a motion, and a second, the Committee voted to approve the revised operating budget of \$76,759,962. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Watkins left the meeting soon after 9:00 pm.

The Committee next discussed Article 16, *Fund Glezen Lane Traffic Control Measures*. Mr. Greenaway presented the writeup. Members of the Committee inquired as to whether there were any mitigation or other funds available to fund the work. After a brief discussion, a motion, and a second, the Committee voted to recommend approval of Article 16 at Annual Town Meeting. Vote: 3-1.

The Committee next discussed Article 31, *Accept Chapter 390 of the Acts of 2014 to Establish a Tax Title Collection Revolving Fund*. Mr. Wolin presented the writeup. After a brief discussion, a motion, and a second, the Committee voted to recommend approval of Article 31 at Annual Town Meeting. Vote: 4-0.

The Committee then discussed the Draft Report of the Finance Committee. Mrs. Martin made several suggestions for points of emphasis to include in the report, including capital fund closeouts, listening to taxpayers with respect to the unexpected bond premium, bringing the capital budget forward, and the long-range planning project. After further discussion, a motion, and a second, the Committee approved the Draft Report for inclusion in the Warrant, authorizing Mr. Greenaway to make final revisions. Vote: 4-0.

After a motion and a second, the Committee voted to adjourn at 10:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Greenaway, Chair