

Westborough Advisory Finance Committee  
Minutes of Meeting No. 8 FY2010  
October 26, 2009

Approved  
December 7, 2009

Members Present: Jo Lown, Chair, F. Robert Brown, Bill Linnane, Brigitte Casemyr, Ian Johnson (arrived 6:22 p.m.), Kevin Cronin, Michael Meachen (arrived 6:28 p.m.), Judy Lucas, John E. Arnold (arrived 7:20 p.m.). Absent: None.

At 6:18 p.m. Ms. Lown called the meeting to order in the Westborough High School Auditorium.

### **2009 Fall Town Meeting Warrant Review**

#### **Discussion of 2009 Special Town Meeting Recommendations**

A table of votes is included at the end of these minutes.

Ms. Lown reviewed the motions to be made on several articles.

Ms. Lown will be presenting Article 16, as Mr. Malloy will not be attending due to a death in his family.

#### **Article 8 – Public Safety Complex**

Ms. Lown reported that the Municipal Building Committee has voted to pass over Article 8, and Mr. John R. Arnold will make this motion. There could still be a motion made in the affirmative; if this is the case the motion to pass over will be voted first, then the affirmative motion second if the motion to pass over fails. Ms. Lown asked for a committee member to present the positive case for Article 8 if needed.

#### **Article 12 – Warren Street Drainage Improvement**

Motion changed from Treasurer/Collector to Town Manager.

#### **Article 13 – Work on Town Sewer System**

John Walden, DPW Manager, reported that after additional information from Carl Balduf, the motion has been revised to raise and appropriate \$732,000 (rather than \$700,000 as originally written) from sewer retained earnings. This will require a 2/3 vote for approval, due to the potential acquisition of land in the Article as written. Several committee members raised questions on the cost, the acquisition of land, and the \$105,000 Engineering / Construction Administration cost. Mr. Walden stated the additional cost is mostly for the National Grid allowance, which is being charged to change some electrical work. Mr. Walden also says there may be no need for land acquisition, and will check with Mr. Harrington about changing the motion. Ms. Lown also noted that the funds for this article come from sewer retained earnings, and that if the funds are not spent the funds will remain in Retained Earnings account. Committee voted on first motion on this article.

At the request of the committee, Carl Balduf, Town Engineer, explained that the original number was based on an estimate, and the new number includes actual data from bids. The project is estimated to last approximately 4 months, especially if it can be included with 2 other projects that have been awarded to the same construction company. National Grid charge includes a new, larger transformer installation. Mr. Balduf concurs there is no actual land acquisition needed as far as he knows. Committee voted on a second motion on this article.

#### **Adjournment**

Meeting remained in session until adjournment of Town Meeting.

## **Votes taken at the Finance Committee meeting on October 26, 2009**

### **Article 8 – Public Safety Complex**

Ms. Casemyr moved to recommend the town vote to pass over Article 8. Vote to approve the article recommendation was 6 in favor and 2 opposed (Brown, Johnson), with 8 being present.

### **Article 13 – Work on Town Sewer System (first vote)**

Mr. Johnson moved to recommend the town vote to appropriate \$732,000 from Sewer Retained Earnings for the purposes of this article.

Vote to approve the article recommendation was 4 in favor (Lown, Brown, Johnson, Meachen,) 3 opposed, and 1 abstention (Linnane), with 8 being present.

### **Article 13 – Work on Town Sewer System (second vote)**

After hearing from Mr. Balduf, Mr. Johnson again moved to recommend the town vote to transfer \$732,000 from Sewer Retained Earnings for the purposes of this article. The vote to approve the article recommendation was unanimous, 8 in favor with 8 being present.