

Westborough Advisory Finance Committee
Minutes of Meeting No. 19 FY2006
March 20, 2006

Approved
April 3, 2006

Members Present: Chairman J. J. Malone, Rich Gottlieb, Ian Johnson, Judy Lucas, Ronn Moody, Carolyn Spring, Cliff Watts

Member Absent: Polly Howard, Jo Lown

At 7:00 p.m. Chairman Malone called the meeting to order in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

Open Forum

There were no requests to address the committee.

Discussion of FY2007 Wastewater Treatment Plant budget and articles

Treatment Plant Board Chair Don Cowles, Board member Jack Strouse and Engineer/Administrator Jack Goodhall presented and explained the proposed budget: Salary/Wages \$14,100 and Expenses \$2,835,100 for a total of \$2,849,200. They also discussed the three articles proposed by the Wastewater Treatment Plant Board:

\$500,000 for replacement of bar screens,

\$100,000 for additional study of the treatment process and

\$500,000 for improvements recommended in the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan.

Approval of minutes

Mr. Watts moved approval of the minutes of Meeting No.17, March 13, 2006.

The vote to approve the minutes was a unanimous 7 to 0 vote.

Mr. Watts moved approval of the minutes of Meeting No. 18, March 16, 2006.

The vote to approve the minutes was a unanimous 7 to 0 vote.

Discussion and votes on various FY2007 budgets

A table of votes taken is attached to these minutes.

Continued discussion of the role/responsibilities of the Finance Committee

→ LONGER RANGE PLANNING

It was suggested that in the future, when departments come in to discuss their budgets, they should also be asked to discuss their long range plans. Also, FinCom should be sure that voters receive an explanation of the "down the road" implications of actions such as the proposed purchase of the former Vee Arc property. In general, if a project involves a borrowing, we should explain how debt service on the project could reduce funds available for future budgeting.

→ INTERACTIONS WITH THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Committee agreed to have Mr. Malone contact Board of Selectmen Chair Lydia Goldblatt to discuss the possibility of having, as part of the town's annual budgeting process, a joint budget meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee. It was suggested that this meeting might best be held in the fall, before budget guidelines were given to the department heads.

Comments and concerns of Committee members

The Committee agreed to cancel its meeting scheduled for March 30.

Adjournment

At 9:14 p.m. Mr. Watts moved to adjourn the meeting. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

These budget votes were taken at the Finance Committee meeting on March 20, 2006.

DEPARTMENT	SALARY/WAGES	EXPENSES	TOTAL	Moved by	Vote to approve
Sanitary Landfill	\$0	\$700,000	\$700,000	Mr. Watts	7 to 0
Historical Commission	\$20,235	\$17,400	\$37,635	Mr. Johnson	7 to 0
Country Club	\$6,450	\$423,840	\$430,290	Mr. Moody	7to 0
Selectmen/Coord	\$267,529	\$45,950	\$313,479	Mr. Moody	7 to 0
Insurance	\$0	\$8,249,708	\$8,249,708	Mr. Moody	7 to 0
Health Department	\$230,470	\$14,200	\$244,670	Mr. Watts	7 to 0
Conservation Comm	\$35,560	\$4,125	\$39,685	Mr. Johnson	6 to 1 (Mr. Watts)
MIS/GIS	\$75,488	\$157,396	\$232,884	Mr. Moody	6 to 0, 1 abstention (Ms. Spring)
Youth & Family Serv	\$141,316	\$9,450	\$150,766	Ms. Spring	7 to 0
Council on Aging	\$188,206	\$25,012	\$213,218	Mr. Watts	7 to 0
Library	\$604,799	\$210,310	\$815,109	Mr. Watts	7 to 0
Building Department	\$244,163	\$33,109	\$277,272	Mr. Moody	7 to 0
Sewer Debt	\$0	\$654,871	\$654,871	Mr. Johnson	7 to 0
Water Debt	\$0	\$1,801,565	\$1,801,565	Mr. Johnson	7 to 0
Police	\$2,320,923	\$94,409	\$2,415,332	Mr. Moody	7 to 0
Fire/Ambulance	\$2,530,867	\$261,071	\$2,791,938	Mr. Johnson	7 to 0
DPW	\$1,298,161	\$662,874	\$1,961,035	Mr. Moody	7 to 0
Sewer O&M	\$566,020	\$285,304	\$851,324	Mr. Moody	7 to 0
Water O&M	\$442,959	\$1,439,066	\$1,882,025	Mr. Moody	7 to 0