

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes**

**October 15, 2009**

Regular meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Thursday, October 15, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the Finance Committee Room, Town Hall with the following members present: T. Jalkut, J. Muti, C. Lane, M. Hickey, L. Donovan, M. Gallivan, S. Connell, P. Stasiukevicius and T. Bowen. (7:35 p.m. D. Burke, 8:20 p.m. – J. Stadtler) Also in attendance were Town Administrator M. Boynton and Finance Director M. Good.

7:30 p.m. – Quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by the Chairman T. Jalkut.

### **October 19, 2009 Fall Annual Town Meeting**

#### **Article 10 – Firefighter’s Contract**

Town Administrator updated the Committee on the Firefighter’s Contract. They are meeting this evening in attempt to ratify the contract. If the contract is ratified this evening, it will require that Town Meeting be extended till Monday, October 26, 2009, meeting the 7 day notice requirements to the RTM’s. If ratified he hopes to present it to the Selectmen and the Finance Committee on Monday, October 19,2009.

Finance Committee’s vote presently on Article 10 is Recommendation at Town Meeting and there is a need to have a vote for Town Meeting. Town Administrator is against a No Action vote in case there is no quorum of Finance Committee members. Consensus of the Committee was to take a No Action vote and if the Contract is ratified, Committee would have to meet. If the status changes, we will change our vote. Contract negotiations have been ongoing for several years.

**MOTION MADE** by T. Bowen, Seconded by S. Connell for Reconsideration of Article 10, Motion Passed, Unanimous (9-0-0) (9 voting)

**MOTION MADE** by T. Bowen, Seconded by S. Connell for No Action on Article 10, Motion Passed, Unanimous (9-0-0) (9 voting)

7:35 p.m. – Committee Member D. Burke

#### **Articles 11, 12 and 22-Selectmen Zoning Articles**

Town Administrator spoke to the Selectmen meeting on October 13, 2009. He has met with Siemens and Hollingsworth & Vose on the articles. The desire of the Selectmen is to not to rush them, would like a vote to recind the articles and recommend Refer Back to

Selectmen. They want to make sure the articles are handle right for corporate partners and residents of the Town. Selectmen's vote was 5-0-0. Town Administrator felt it would be taken up in the Fall of 2010. Spring Town Meeting Warrant opens in December and closes in January and there is insufficient time to iron out the issues.

Committee spoke to it making sense that the Board of Selectmen as petitioners of the article that they want it to work.

**MOTION MADE** by T. Bowen, Seconded by S. Connell for Reconsideration of Articles 11, 12 and 22, Motion Passed (10-0-0) (10 voting) Unanimous

**MOTION MADE** by S. Connell, Seconded by J. Muti on Article 11 to Refer Back to Board of Selectmen, Motion Passed (10-0-0) (10 voting) Unanimous

**MOTION MADE** by S. Connell, Seconded by J. Muti on Article 12 to Refer Back to Board of Selectmen, Motion Passed (10-0-0) (10 voting) Unanimous

**MOTION MADE** by S. Connell, Seconded by J. Muti on Article 22 to Refer Back to Board of Selectmen, Motion Passed (10-0-0) (10 voting) Unanimous

### **Article 21- Rezoning on Walpole Park South**

Petitioner requested article be withdrawn without prejudiced in a letter dated October 14, 2009, they requested that the Committee not take any action so they could pursue it at a later date.

**MOTION MADE** by S. Connell, Seconded by C. Lane for Reconsideration of Article 21, Motion Passed (10-0-0) (10 voting) Unanimous

Committee will not take a vote on this article.

### **Article 16 – Parking Regulations**

Under Section 2- Table 8.8.A.1 Minimum Parking Space, word space was requested to be eliminated, it should be left in article, taken out in error and should be reinserted.

**MOTION MADE** by C. Lane, Seconded by T. Bowen for Reconsideration of Article 16, Parking Regulations, Motion Passed (10-0-0) (10-0-0) Unanimous

**MOTION MADE** by C. Lane, Seconded by T. Bowen to reinsert the word “space” in Table 8.8.A.1, Motion Passed (10-0-0) (10-0-0) Unanimous

### **Town Administrator's Update**

State Budget is \$600,000 in deficit, Governor wants the Legislature to give him 9-C powers. Town has sent letters to the legislative delegation, but it is not know how fast they will act. He will be reviewing the budgets during the next two months.

Firefighters - \$219,000 has been allocated for layoffs. Walpole down four positions, Town is allowed to rehire three of the four in a grant application. Grant only funds these position from November to November. He has not see the grant documents. He feels that he will likely have money for two positions for a twelve month period. If the Town doesn't use the funds from the grant, they will reallocated to another community. Town cannot fill the positions with non-layoff firefighters.

### **Minutes**

**MOTION MADE** by S. Connell, Seconded by L. Donovan to approve the Minutes of the October 5, 2009 meeting, Motion Passed (10-0-0) (10 voting) Unanimous

### **Finance Committee Public Hearing**

**MOTION MADE** by T. Bowen, Seconded by P. Stasiukevicius to open the Finance Committee Public Hearing at 8:00 p.m. Motion Passed (10-0-0) (10 voting) Unanimous

### Citizens Comments

J. Moraski questioned whether the Rules Committee could implement a rule prohibiting a request for a 2 ½ override to come back within a certain time frame. Discussion ensued that the only way would be for a special act of the legislature. Appropriation has to be approved by Town Meeting, couldn't the Rules Committee formulate a rule? Town cannot change what is set in place by the State. J. Moraski would like to see the Rules Committee put in place the restrictions of a repeated 2 ½ override. Some members spoke to if Town Meeting doesn't like something, they can just vote no.

8:20 p.m. J. Stadtler

**MOTION MADE** by T. Bowen, seconded by S. Connell, to close the public hearing at 8:30 p.m., Motion Approved (11-0-0) (11 voting)

**MOTION MADE** by C. Lane, Seconded by S. Connell to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m, Motion Approved, Unanimous (11-0-0) (11 voting)

Respectfully submitted,

Clare P. Abril, Clerk

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