Approved 9-6-2018

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Minutes**

**May 9, 2018**

A special meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Room, Library of the Walpole High School. Members present were: P. Stasiukevicius, J. Burke, M. Trudell, M. Ahigian, J. Leith, A. Flowers, M. Clow, P. Hinton, T. Bowen, A. Hamilton, R. Nottebart and S. Lawson. Members absent were: J. Vaillancourt, R. Mariani, and E. Barmakian. Also in attendance was Town Administrator J. Johnson, Counsel I. Quirk, Planning Board Members J. Conroy, J. Moraski, K. Abate, S. Khatib and M. Romeo. Town Planner T. Higgins, Selectmen M. Gallivan and A. Ragosta, and Fire Chief T. Bailey, Finance Director M. Thompson, and Town Accountant J. Cuneo.

6:30 p.m. – Quorum being present the meeting was called to order by the Chairman

P. Stasiukevicius.

**Fire Department Internal Year End Transfer**

Chief Bailey explained that he is requesting a $90,000 year end transfer from Salaries to Expenses. This transfer is allowed under MGL c.44.sec33B for any department within the last two months though July 15. Board of Selectmen have approved this transfer on a 4-0-0 vote. It was explained that the monies are available due to the anticipated six new hires did not start at the beginning of the fiscal year and they had to wait for a date for the academy.

**MOTION MADE** by M. Trudell, Seconded by P. Hinton for Favorable Action on the Fire Department request for an internal year end transfer in the amount of $90,000 from Salaries to expense For the following line items: 530100 Medical Health ($22,842) 558000 equipment/turnout gear ($16,800) 530900 (increase cost of ambulance collections ($6,000) 541000 ($8,276 Gas/Fuel) 521010 ($3,500) electricity and 524031 apparatus repair ($32,582) Motion Passed (12-0-0) (12 voting) Unanimous

**May 7 , 2018 Spring Annual Town Meeting**

**MOTION MADE** by S. Lawson, Seconded by M. Trudell for Reconsideration of Article 35, Motion Passed, (12-0-0) (12 voting) Unanimous

Planning Board Chairman J. Conroy spoke to this article. Article removes the option of constructing an Age Qualified Village (AQV) in non—residential districts (i.e.) Business (B), Limited Manufacturing (LM) and Highway Business (HB) as well as in the Rural District . The intent is to retain the non-residential districts for non-residential uses (i.e. commercial/industrial/retain) and not allow residential uses. It precludes the higher density AQV’s from being located in the Rural Distract where such uses would not be in character with existing single-family housing on larger lots. AQV came into effect due to a proposal from a developer to allow AQV to only be allowed in Residential B, General Residence Business and LM and High Business District and Rural District contiguous to the Highway Business District. Proposal is to allow only in Residential B and General Residential Districts and to change the Use Table for 10 and 15 acre parcels. Planning Board is not aware of anyone being unhappy with this proposed change.

Selectmen voted 4-0-0 to Refer Back to Committee on this article.

**Discussion:** Town needs a balance of both commercial and residential in the Town. Town is in the process of building many more housing units. Vacancy rate for commercial land is higher than for residential. Town needs to work on the commercial base and needs to preserve what we have. There needs to be thoughtful plan, making it affordable for the elderly and young people.

**MOTION MADE** by T. Bowen, Seconded by S. Lawson for Favorable Action on the Town Counsel Draft of Article 35 dated May 8, 2018, Motion Passed (11-1-0) (A. Flowers opposed) (12 voting)

**Year End Funds/Chairman’s Authorization**

In prior year’s the Finance Committee has granted authorization to the Chairman or Vice-Chairman to approve Reserve Fund Transfers or within budget transfers up to $5,000 and to a date certain (July 15, 2018) thus eliminating a need to call a meeting for the end of the budget year. This is needed due to sometimes having difficulty during the summer months in obtaining a quorum.

**MOTION MADE** b y T. Bowen, Seconded by S. Lawson to grant the Finance Committee Chairman or Vice-Chairman authorization to approve any Reserve Fund Transfers or Budget Transfers for Expenses to Salaries or Salaries to Expenses up to the amount of $5,000 for the period ending July 15, 2018. Motion Passed (11-1-0) (J. Burke in opposition) (12 voting)

**Adjourn:**

**MOTION MADE** by P. Hinton, Seconded by S. Lawson to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m., Motion Passed (12-0-0) (12 voting) Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Clare P. Abril

Clerk