

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2015
Butterick Building, Room 205

Chairman Bob Brown called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

In Attendance:

Bob Brown, Joe Sova, Barbara Bartlett, Jerry Kokernak Mary Cliett, Ed Sweet, Cynthia Secord and Interim Town Administrator Michael Szlosek

Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting:

The minutes of the March 17, 2015 meeting were reviewed and a motion to approve as written was made by Joe Sova and seconded by Cynthia Secord. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Discuss and Review FY16 Budget, Capital ad Article Requests:

Chairman Bob Brown lead a discussion of the proposed salary increase for non-union employees, with the Personnel Board recommending an increase of 2-1/2 percent. After review and discussion, Jerry Kokernak moved to recommend a 2 percent wage adjustment for non-union employees. Cynthia Secord seconded the motion. All in favor and the motion carried.

The committee also considered the proposed replacement of the 1835 Town Hall roof. There is no comprehensive plan in place as of this date. in light of this fact, Joe Sova made a motion to not approve funding for a new roof. Ed Sweet seconded, all in favor.

Vote Initial FinCom Position on Warrant Articles:

DPW Loader - \$160,000. Joe Sova made a motion to withhold support of this article, seconded by Ed Sweet. All were in favor. The Committee suggested this purchase could possibly be considered in FY17.

Deleading of the 1835 Town Hall south wall. Joe Sova made a motion to not fund this request. Seconded by Jerry Kokernak. All were in favor and the motion carried. Interim Town Administrator Michael Szlosek is researching this project and may be able to have the work completed for less than the requested \$25,000.

Fire Department 4x4 Utility Vehicle Replacement - On Hold.

Fire Department Jaws of Life - \$35,000. Joe Sova made a motion in support of this article. It was seconded by Barbara Bartlett. All in favor.

Fire Department Protective Equipment - \$52,000. On Hold for clarification.

Fire Department Matching Grant for Air Compressor \$3,800. Joe Sova made a motion in support, seconded by Barbara Bartlett. All in favor.

Police Department Replacement of Chief's Car - \$38,000. Joe Sova made a motion in support, and it was seconded by Mary Cliett, All were in favor and the motion carried.

IT - Upgrade Microsoft Office from 2007 to 2013. Ed Sweet made a motion to withhold support of this article. It was seconded by Jerry Kokernak. All were in favor and the motion carried.

IT - Fund a server and 3 workstations - \$17,000. Ed Sweet made a motion in support of this article. It was seconded by Joe Sova. All were in favor and the motion carried.

IT - Fund 3 workstations and a notebook - \$5,000. After discussion, the vote on this article was amended. Ed Sweet made a motion to support this article. Seconded by Cynthia Secord. All were in favor.

Reserve Fund for FY16 - \$100,000. Barbara Bartlett made a motion in support. Joe Sova seconded and all were in favor.

Wachusett Regional School District and Montachusett Regional Vocational School - On Hold.

Amend Personnel Bylaw - On Hold.

Fund Maintenance for 1835 Town Hall - On Hold.

Transfer from Window to Painting for 1835 Town Hall - On Hold.

Fund Landfill Monitoring - Jerry Kokernak made a motion to support this article. It was seconded by Ed Sweet. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Water Tank Rehab: Osgood Road Tank - Jerry Kokernak recommended the Finance Committee support this article. Mary Cliett seconded and all were in favor.

Solar Facility PILOT Agreement - On Hold.

Fund Principal and Interest for Ambulance - \$38,867.20. Ed Sweet made a motion to support this article. Joe Sova seconded and all were in favor.

Fund Principal and Interest for Pumper-Tanker - \$62,148.05. Joe Sova made a motion in support of this article. Barbara Bartlett seconded and all were in favor.

Fulltime Firefighter Paramedic Positions - On Hold.

Ed Sweet had a commitment, and left the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Authorize Treasurer to Borrow Money - Mary Cliett made a motion to support this article. Seconded by Jerry Kokernak and all present were in favor.

Compensating Balance Agreements - Jerry Kokernak made a motion to support this article. It was seconded by Mark Cliett and all present were in favor.

Fund Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) - On Hold.

Authorization to Enter Contract for Postal Equipment - Barbara Bartlett made a motion in support of this article. Jerry Kokernak seconded and all were in favor,

Replace Water Truck #3 - Mary Cliett made a motion to support this article. It was seconded by Joe Sova. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Water Department Enterprise Housecleaning - Defer at this time.

East Lake Washacum Treatment - Defer.

Veterans Services District - Defer

Fund Part-Time Assistant Recreation Director Position - Defer

Revolving Accounts - On Hold.

Fund Wachusett Earthday (Wachusett Watershed Regional Recycling) - Joe Sova made a motion to support this article. It was seconded by Jerry Kokernak and all were in favor.

Fund Wachusett Greenways Expenses - Joe Sova made a motion to support the article, seconded by Mary Cliett. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Fund Sterling Land Trust Expenses - Joe Sova made a motion to support the article, seconded by Mary Cliett, all in favor.

Apply Stabilization Fund to Reduce the Tax Rate - On Hold.

Other Committee Business:

Chairman Bob Brown scheduled the next meeting for Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 6:00 PM in Room 205 of the Butterick Building.

Adjourn:

Joe Sova made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Mary Cliett. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.