

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM on February 26, 2002 in the Groton Town Hall. Present at the meeting were Lorraine Leonard, Mike Flynn, Todd Hutchinson, Bill Maloomian, Win Nordblom, Steve Boczenowski, and Ann Walsh.

Carl Paul and Tony DeBruyn, representing the Town Government Study Committee, addressed the committee to determine whether they supported ways in which the amount of dollars in financial warrant articles can be prevented from being increased on the floor of town meeting.. Opinions were expressed from the committee on both sides of this issue.

The Capital Planning Board distributed a draft copy of a 10 Year Capital Plan. Each item in the FY 2003 column was discussed by the two committees.

Copies of the minutes from the previous meeting were distributed to the committee. A motion was made by Win Nordblom to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Bill Maloomian. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

A discussion ensued about strategies to use to review the budget. Bill Maloomian made a motion to freeze to all current staffing levels, effective immediately, no additional hours and no additional personnel through the end of FY03. The motion was seconded by Todd Hutchinson. Steve Boczenowski made a motion to amend the motion by adding the phrase "until further notice," but it was not seconded. The motion, as originally moved, carried with 5 votes in favor (Leonard, Flynn, Hutchinson, Maloomian, and Nordblom) and 1 vote against (Boczenowski).

The committee also discussed a target for a percentage increase for GDRSD Budget. Although the committee had not yet received any hard numbers from the School Committee, it was anticipated that their request would be for a sizeable increase over last year. After a discussion, a consensus was gained on what the target growth of the GDRSD budget should be, although no formal vote was taken. The committee agreed that the School Committee would be informed that the expected limit of GDRSD budget increase, in the absence of any additional tax revenue to the town, should be capped at 5%.

The next meeting was scheduled to take place on Tuesday, March 5 at 7:30 in Town Hall.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Steve Boczenowski, seconded by Mike Flynn, and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Boczenowski