

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:42 PM on March 12, 2002 in the Groton Town Hall. Present at the meeting were Lorraine Leonard, Todd Hutchinson, Bill Maloomian, Win Nordblom, David Powell, Jeff Wilson, Mike Flynn, Steve Boczenowski, and Ann Walsh.

Copies of the minutes from the previous meeting were distributed to the committee. A motion was made by Lorraine Leonard to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Todd Hutchinson. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

There was a discussion about the budget, especially with regard to the effect of the GDRSD budget recommendation. The discussion moved to the financial articles in the Town Meeting Warrant. (The version of the Town Warrant that the committee used was dated March 7, 2002. Only the first 6 articles in this version of the warrant were numbered. The committee determined to reference the articles by number with the understanding that the order may change.)

Steve Boczenowski made a motion to accept Article 7 (\$77,913 – Sewer Commission), and it was seconded by Todd Hutchinson, and it was approved unanimously.

Bill Maloomian made a motion to modify Article 8 (\$300,000 – Conservation Commission) to \$150,000, it was seconded by Steve Boczenowski, and it was approved by a vote of 4 (Leonard, Maloomian, Wilson, Boczenowski) – 3 (Nordblom, Powell, Hutchinson).

Jeff Wilson made a motion to accept Article 9 (\$10,000 – Town Accountant, GASB), it was seconded by Win Nordblom, and it was approved unanimously.

Steve Boczenowski made a motion to accept Article 10 (\$30,000 – Board of Health, hazardous material waste disposal), and it was seconded by Jeff Wilson. After hearing that last year's event spent less than \$6,000, Jeff Wilson made a motion to amend the amount to \$10,000 and it was seconded by Steve Boczenowski. The modified motion was approved unanimously.

Steve Boczenowski made a motion to accept Article 11 (\$13,500 – Board of Selectmen, Norris Property), it was seconded by David Powell, and it was defeated with a vote of 3 votes in favor (Leonard, Powell, Boczenowski) and 4 votes against (Nordblom, Hutchinson, Maloomian, Wilson).

Steve Boczenowski made a motion to accept Article 12 (\$20,000 – 350th Anniversary Committee) at a reduced amount of \$10,000, it was seconded by Jeff Wilson, and it was approved by a vote of 6 votes in favor (Leonard, Powell, Boczenowski, Hutchinson, Maloomian, Wilson) and 1 against (Nordblom).

Jeff Wilson made a motion to accept Article 13 (\$15,000 – Board of Health, repair recycling shed), and it was seconded by Steve Boczenowski. Because there was no information available about this request, the motion was removed and the committee took no position.

The committee took no position on articles 14, 15, and 16, all of which were proposed by the Highway Department, because insufficient information was available to make a decision.

Steve Boczenowski made a motion to accept Article 17 (\$100,000 – Highway Supervisor, underground utilities), it was seconded by Todd Hutchinson, and it was defeated with two votes for (Hutchinson, Boczenowski) and six votes against (Nordblom, Leonard, Maloomian, Flynn, Wilson, Powell).

Jeff Wilson made a motion to accept Article 18 (\$185,000 – EMS, Rescue Truck), it was seconded by Win Nordblom, and it was approved unanimously.

Todd Hutchinson made a motion to oppose Article 19 (\$4,000 – Board of Selectmen), and it was seconded by Steve Boczenowski, and it was approved unanimously. The committee opposes article 19.

Steve Boczenowski made a motion to accept Article 20 (\$6,000,000 – Water Department, Water Pollution Abatement Trust), it was seconded by Bill Maloomian, and it was approved by a vote of seven votes in favor (Hutchinson, Leonard, Maloomian, Flynn, Wilson, Powell, Boczenowski) and one vote against (Nordblom).

Todd Hutchinson made a motion to accept Article 21 (\$500,000 – Water Department, Water Enterprise Fund), it was seconded by David Powell, and it approved unanimously.

Steve Boczenowski made a motion to take no position on Article 22 (Municipal Buildings, Lost Lake Fire Station), but it was not seconded. Bill Maloomian made a motion to oppose the article and it was seconded by Todd Hutchinson, and it was approved unanimously. The committee opposes article 22.

Steve Boczenowski made a motion to accept Article 23 (\$38,500 – Municipal Buildings, Repair Public Safety Building), and it was seconded by Jeff Wilson. Upon hearing that the Capital Planning Board was uncertain over whether they were in support of this article, the motion was rescinded and the committee took no position.

David Powell made a motion to accept Article 28 (\$6,000 – Police Chief, Police Detail Revolving Fund), it was seconded by Steve Boczenowski, and it was approved unanimously.

Steve Boczenowski made a motion to accept Article 33 (\$18,500 – Selectmen, Orchard Lane settlement), it was seconded by David Powell, and it was approved unanimously.

Jeff Wilson made a motion to accept Article 34 (\$75,000 – Selectmen, Reserve Fund transfer), it was seconded by Steve Boczenowski, and it was approved unanimously.

Jeff Wilson made a motion to accept Article 37 (\$10,000 – Board of Assessors), it was seconded by Win Nordblom, and it was approved unanimously.

Todd Hutchinson made a motion to oppose Article 45 (\$399,000, Spooner property purchase), it was seconded by Bill Maloomian, and it was approved unanimously. David Powell then made a motion that the FinCom will make a motion at Town Meeting that the funds for this article should be raised by borrowing, it was seconded by Bill Maloomian, and passed unanimously.

Steve Boczenowski made a motion that the FinCom would not support any additional funding for the Williams Barn Restoration Fund (Article 47) and Todd Hutchinson seconded it. The motion was approved unanimously.

The next meeting was scheduled to take place on Tuesday, March 19 at 7:30 in Town Hall.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jeff Wilson, seconded by Bill Maloomian, and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Boczenowski