

YARMOUTH  
TOWN CLERK  
JUN 16 AM 9:43  
RE

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Yarmouth Town Hall, Room A**  
**June 9, 2010**

Present: Chair Carlene Veara, Clerk Betty-Jane Burkhardt, Carol Serafino, Randall Stiffler, and Dorothy Voelker; Vice Chairman Philip Morris and Peter Slovak arrived after the meeting started.

Staff: Town Administrator Robert Lawton

In the absence of the Vice Chairman, Clerk Burkhardt called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The Clerk reported that Mr. Stiffler had declined the Chairmanship and therefore the first order of business was the election of a Chairman. Mr. Stiffler commended Ms. Veara on her knowledge and leadership abilities, as shown by the success of the petitioned article, and moved to nominate her as Chairman. The motion was seconded by Ms. Serafino and Ms. Voelker. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Veara assumed the duties as Chair.

Ms. Serafino moved approval of the minutes of May 24, 2010, seconded by Ms. Voelker. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Lawton reported the following:

- ▶ The Board of Selectmen has set the dates for the Special Town Meeting and Special Election for Monday, July 26, 2010, and Tuesday, July 27, 2010, respectively. Mr. Lawton stressed that the wordage on the ballot must be in accordance with State law.
- ▶ Based on the School Committee recertification of the DY budget, the Yarmouth assessment is now \$753,302 which requires an override of Prop 2 ½. Mr. Lawton advised that the Selectmen voted on June 8, 2010, to request Town Meeting approve transferring a total of \$250,000 from the local option taxes which had been approved for the Police and Fire Departments. If this figure is approved at the Special Town Meeting, the amount of the requested override for School would be \$503,302.
- ▶ During the discussion of the proposed ballot, Mr. Lawton announced that the wordage “as an override” would be added to the amount requested. The Finance Committee requested a further explanation to the “Summary” regarding the meaning of a “No vote” such as “A No vote might mean that the School Committee recertify their budget again and could eventually lead to a Regional Meeting.”.
- ▶ The five articles for the STM were reviewed and votes were not taken at this time. Article 1 is the request to amend Article 5 to reduce the Police and Fire Department budgets by \$125,000 each. Article 2 is the override request for DY. Article 3 is an amendment to Article 6 to include the \$15,000 for the Crematory Design and specification which inadvertently had been omitted from the ATM Warrant. Article 4 is the requested change of dates for the ATM and annual election to allow sufficient time between the two events in the event there is a need to correct language on a ballot based on the ATM vote. Mr. Lawton explained that the Town Clerk has to have a ballot printed and available for absentee voters at least 30 days prior to an election. Article 5 is the rewarding of the authority of the Board of Selectmen to remove a member from any board, commission and committee. This would be a vote to amend Chapter 44 of the Town

Code and adding a new section 44-15. Mr. Lawton will provide the Committee with a definition of the word "cause".

A request was made to have the Government Oversight Committee meet with the Finance Committee to explain their views regarding the proposed Articles 4 and 5.

- ▶ In response to a request at the last meeting, the Town Clerk advised that reimbursement has been received from the State for the cost of the special State Senator election. A transfer had been made from the Reserve Fund to the Election budget in order to pay for the election.

Upon a motion by Mr. Morris, seconded by Ms. Burkhardt, it was unanimously voted to void the transfer of \$5,818 from the Reserve Fund.

Mr. Lawton announced that Mr. William Bastian has expressed interested in returning to the Finance Committee. The members commented that they would be happy to have Mr. Bastian back.

The next meeting of the Finance Committee was set for Wednesday, July 7, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Burkhardt, seconded and unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Betty-Jane Burkhardt, Recorder and Clerk