

Finance Committee Minutes 9/17/2018

Kelly, Durey, Roberts, Beaudoin, Jennings, Knezek in attendance

Note: selectmen votes from 9/24/2018 added in parenthesis

1. Call to Order
2. No public comment
3. Late File Items

Durey noted that fincom doesn't have an e-mail address and that we should get one. Durey notes that this e-mail will be available to all members collectively. Roberts motions to create financecommittee@wnewbury.org. Vote 5-0 to approve.

4. Approval of minutes
Minutes from previous meeting, 8/13/18 approved 5-0

5. Review of proposed warrant articles for Fall Town Meeting
A. Board Of Health Articles, 1,2 6:30-6:50

Bob Janes and Paul Sevigny in attendance. There has been elevated levels of 1,4 dioxane of the old dump. 1993 and 1995 there was some initial testing done at the old dump-this led to DEP getting involved in the landfill. Over the years, the Board of Health has periodically tested the site for ground water contamination. In early 2018 well sites #1 and 5 have tested about allowable levels. This has led to a DEP letter on non-compliance. The town manager and the Board of Health have been working with DEP to follow required remedial actions required, but will likely require 10 years of 3rd party testing along with placement of additional test wells. This will likely cost \$30,000 initially and then as much as \$20,000 annually thereafter for the foreseeable future.

Voted to recommend this article 5-0.
(Selectmen vote: 3-0 funding source: free cash)

[Chairman Roberts excused himself from this discussion and left the room due to potential conflict of interest]

The second article reviewed was for \$50,000 to offset increased cost of recycling secondary changes in China's recycling processing policy. This reflects a change in the processing fee from \$9 per ton in 2017 to roughly \$93 today. Bob Janes recommended switching from single stream recycling back to separate glass, plastic, paper, cardboard in the future; however it should be noted that regardless of how recycling is collected at our curbside, all the local recycling processing plants use single stream processing anyhow so as far as the processing plants are concerned all recycling goods are single stream. Kelly objected to the price increase on grounds of it violating our existing contract. He notes that for years that G Mello was profiting off of the recycling waste

Voted to recommend this article 4-0-1 with Chairman Roberts recused from the discussion due to conflict of interest.

(Selectmen vote: 3-0 funding source: free cash)

B. Community Center Committee, 6:50-7:15

Vanessa Graham in attendance. The CCC would like \$4,000 for architectural fees to look at converting the Annex into a intergenerational community center. Beaudoin noted that this is not a unforeseen or emergency expenditure and therefore this article should wait for the annual spring town meeting. Durey raised concerns with the accounting and proper use of previous funds.

Voted to recommend this article 3-2 with Durey and Beaudoin dissenting.

(Selectmen vote: 3-0 funding source: free cash)

C. Community Preservation Committee, Article 4 7:15-7:40

Bill Bacharach, Tom Flaherty in attendance.

This article looks to seek funds for an engineering study to expand the recreational area at Pipestave Hill Rec area. Requested amount is \$51,500. Currently field usage in town is at 100%; serving a number of youth sports activities. The engineering study will also include evaluation on parking needs. Short term goals are to go forward with the engineering study and public meetings. Roberts asked why the parking at Pipestave is reserved for equestrian use only. Bill did not have an answer for this.

Voted to recommend this article 5-0

(Selectmen vote 3:0 - funding source CPC - Open space reserve (with amendment of word change from "master plan" to "plan")

D. Planning Board, 7:40-8:00

Leah Zambenardi, Ann Bardeen, Mike Bridges in attendance

Two articles are presented to modify existing bylaws with respect to the Large scale ground mounted solar arrays and minimal distances between houses in open-space preservation developments. The changes reflect changes and clarifications the planning board feels are appropriate considering recent experience with the Drake's Landing Development and the proposed commercial solar array on Coffin St. FinCom generally approved of the changes with Beaudoin asking about why the calculation for Basic Maximal Housing number does NOT include the required affordable housing units. The Planning Board members confirmed that this was correct and that it is the way they preferred the bylaw to be interpreted.

Voted to recommend this article: 5-0.

(Selectmen approved articles 10,12, 13 3-0)

(Selectmen chose to delay vote on #7)

(Selectmen chose to delay vote on #8 because they feel like these changes are not enough to address issues they have with the existing open space housing laws)

(Selectmen chose to remove article 9,11 because they are not sure who the trustee/board will be at this point)

E. Board of Selectman Articles 7,8,9,10,11,12

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of \$2,500 to fund temporary office support in the Town Manager/Selectmen Office. *By request of the Board of Selectmen*

Voted to recommend this article: 5-0
(Selectmen vote 3:0 - free cash)

Collectively reviewed the remaining articles that represent modifications to the Town's bylaws to reflect recommendations of the 2018 Division of Local Services(DLS) report for best town financial practices. These recommendations have been reviewed with the Board of Selectmen, DLS, FinCom and the Town manager and generally been accepted as best practices moving forward.

Voted to recommend this article 5-0.

6. Communications

Beaudoin reports that there will be a presentation on "TOWN CENTER INFRASTRUCTURE STUDY" 9/26/18 at 7PM which is the culmination of the working group on the feasibility and impact of a town sewage treatment plant.

7. Adjournment