

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
7:30 PM O'NEILL ROOM, COMMUNITY SAFETY BUILDING
3/27/06

ATTENDEES:

McGaffigan*	Fey*	Dunn*	O'Neill*	Mahoney*
DeCoursey*	Connors	Simmons*	Bayer*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan*	
Ferrara*	Franclemont*	Jones*	Olsen*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning*	Carman	Kneeland*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Vision 2020 CoChairs Jane Howard, Joey Glushko, Leslie Mayer; Environment Task Group members Elizabeth Karpati, Bill Eykamp; Assistant PW Director Theresa DiBenedictus

MINUTES of 3/22/06 meeting were accepted as corrected. Unanimous.

ART 45 CELEBRATIONS: The cost of display of flags on graves will be carried by a private group. Placing flags will cost more than last year. Upon reconsideration of 3/22 vote VOTED \$10667. Unanimous.

ART 52 PERMISSIVE LEGISLATION: Tosti has reached consensus w/ all interested parties in Town administration that a warrant article would satisfy the Superintendent's need to have a reserve to buffer unexpected SPED expenses. Members questioned whether this mechanism would complicate the school accounting. After some discussion VOTED to appropriate a sum to be provided by the Superintendent from FY06 available funds to be spent under his direction for unusual SPED expenses, such funds to be renewed as necessary under an annual warrant article. 15-1. Maher to draft vote.

ART 53 SPED ACCOUNT: VOTED no action since ART 52 is sufficient. Unanimous.

ART 24 MAINTENANCE OF TOWN WATER BODIES: Using a handout, Vision 2020 members explained the need to accumulate enough money to cover both small annual and large episodic expenses, to receive both public & private money, and to regularize the maintenance of Spy Pond, the Res (on which the Town has spent appreciable funds in the last 5 years), and in the future perhaps other water bodies. They requested \$15k noting that the Manager would make the \$27k unspent capital budget funds for water chestnut harvesting at the Res available for these purposes as necessary. Members expressed different views about the desirability of another home rule petition and who should pay. The vote was taken in 2 parts. VOTED to support home rule legislation to establish a fund to maintain the Town's water bodies; this fund to be under the direction of the Town Manager who will report annually to the Town Meeting on receipts and expenditures. 11-6. VOTED to appropriate \$15,000 to maintain the Town water bodies. 13-4.

BUD 8 ASSESSORS: Finances SubCom (McGaffigan) provided substitute budget book pages which include several corrections with a net decrease of \$3875. VOTED \$284,569. Unanimous.

BUD 11 REGISTRAR: GenGov SubCom(DuBois) said that the Clerk no longer wants another person in this office. She requested instead an \$800 increase in miscellaneous expenses. VOTED \$59,087. Unanimous.

COMMITTEE: An updated accounting was provided by Kevin O'Brien of the buildings managed by the ARB including the Central School urban renewal project. A summary of the library trust funds was provided by Franclemont.

Next mtg w/Town Counsel, on Wed 4/5.

The House budget bill is due out of committee on 4/12. May require budget adjustments.

RESERVE FUND BALANCE: 78,590.66 (163,590.66)

Peter B Howard Secretary 3/28/06 Revised 3/30/06

cc Selectmen, FinCom Members, Town Manager, Comptroller, Library File, Town Web Site FinCom Web Site