

The minutes for March 25th and April 8th were accepted as amended by R. Ciavarra and seconded by Jessica Norwood with a vote 7-1abstained.

YARMOUTH FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 8, 2020

The second meeting of Finance Committee held by conference call during the COVID-19 pandemic. The role was called by the chairman at 6:00pm.

Present: Ken Mudie Chairman, Jessica Norwood, Robert Ciavarra, Brian Gardiner, Sara Kohls, George Perkins. Absent: Jack Moylan

Absent: N. Ladley

Administration: Dan Knapik Town Administrator, Richard Bienvenue

Guest: Susan Starkey, Jim Wolf, Barry Margolin

- 1. Minutes:** Ken Mudie announced that he has not received the minutes from the last 2 meetings. Ken Mudie called for a motion to begin the meeting. A motion was made to open meeting by Jessica Norwood and seconded by George Perkins. The role was called: Ken Mudie present, Jessica Norwood present, Robert Ciavarra present, Brian Gardiner present, Sara Kohls present, George Perkins present. The chairman noted the agenda would be taken out of order.
- 2. Transfers:** **A transfer of \$10,000. taken from Department of Natural Resource to the Dept. of Public Works** was explained by town administrator to be used for renovation of Conference Room C and to purchase 4 work stations. A motion was made to accept the transfer by Jessica Norwood and seconded by Sara Kohls. The chairman asked for a roll call vote: Jessica Norwood aye, Robert Ciavarra aye, Brian Gardiner aye, Sara Kohls aye, George Perkins aye, Ken Mudie aye. Vote 6-0 in favor.

A transfer of \$23,685.00 taken from Fire Department Salaries for Fire Department Repair and Maintenance. Funding is necessary for emergency repair of heating exchanges on 2 boilers units. A motion was made to accept the transfer by Jessica Norwood and seconded by George Perkins. The chairman asked for a roll call vote: Jessica Norwood aye, Robert Ciavarra aye, Brian Gardiner aye, Sara Kohls aye, George Perkins aye, Ken Mudie aye. Vote 6-0 in favor. An explanation of need for the above 2 transfers was made by town administrator.

A transfer of \$225,851.63 to the IT Department for various IT articles, applications equipment and services which were damages by Town Hall flooding. The explanation of needs was presented by Rich Bienvenue. Both the chairman and R. Ciavarra had questions related to necessity and funding of the transfer. Following further explanations to clarify the transfer, a motion was made to accept the transfer by Jessica Norwood and seconded by George Perkins. The chairman asked for a roll call vote: Jessica Norwood aye, Robert Ciavarra aye, Brian

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Gardiner aye, Sara Kohls aye, George Perkins aye, Ken Mudie aye in favor to accept and Robert Ciavarra to oppose, vote 5 -1.

3. Climate Action Team Presentation: Susan Starkey is a town resident and a member of the energy committee and member of the climate action team which is a grass root organization. The purpose of the presentation to finance committee is to receive input and accept questions from the committee as well as getting their support for the resolution. The team will discuss climate changes that have occurred such as the tornado this past season and will introduce an explanation of the resolution at the upcoming town meeting. S. Starkey noted that this proposal will also be introduced at other town meetings this spring in hopes that it will become a cape wide resolution. The chairman asked for clarification of the resolution in regards to proposal of Article 29. Jim Wolf read the article to be presented on the resolution for climate action which addressed for the committee what the town is being asked to review and adopt. Barry Margolin introduced himself as a resident home owner who discussed his experience over the past 2 years after installing solar system to his residence. He stated it has been a 100% improvement and money saving experience. He mentioned some movement in town to solar installation on town buildings (fire department for example) and he notes that the town already experience some money saving. He wants to encourage public support for future town buildings. Jim Wolf introduced himself as town resident and gave examples from information he received with Cape Air changes since 2009 noting reduction in carbon impact, fully electric aircraft reduced costs by 80%, changes in building effecting savings for Cape Air and the addition of plug in vehicles in 2019. R. Ciavarra asked the town administration about the term resolution and if it means legally binding and the administrator explained the differences in the terms and how it effect decisions around building codes for the town. R. Bienvenue asked for some wording to be clarified in the resolution before the town meeting and S. Starkey agreed to have revisions sent to him for his review.

4. Articles –Discussion/Vote: K Mudie discussed articles that were voted on in the previous meeting and listed Articles deferred. R. Bienvenue stated even though he had been meeting with DHY committee on a regular bases he did not have enough updated information at this time to present to the committee. K. Mudie felt that there was enough information to clarify that Article 29 was not part of the Climate Action resolution. J. Norwood pointed out in view of the town’s emergency situations and possible lack of new information it may not be necessary unless the committee for the plastic bottle article felt the need to return. K Mudie asked if the committee was agreeable to his putting out the statement that, “In absence of request from advocates of any article the committee will take the articles as they stand on the committees review.”

5. FinCom Administrative Items: The chairman devoted time to discuss town’s financial stress due to the COVID-19 crisis. The town administrator listed 3 items which are of financial concern. 1. Collective bargaining: employees who are working at town positions will be receiving double time for the hour they are working. Employees working from

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home do not qualify for double pay. 2. He noted that R. Bienvenue was able to negotiate a time limit on this agreement. 3. Golf is in deficit and will continue to pay employees despite the fact that the course is not open to the public. And the governor allowed towns to take a debt over 3 years' time. He stated that R. Bievenue and E. Senteiro are working on as strategies to address the financial concerns, such as local receipts for hotel and meal taxes.

There was discussion on possible strategies for financial concerns. G. Perkins asked about federal government stage 3 stimulus for state and local government. At this time the administrator has not received any direct information from his weekly communication with state officials. The town administrator pointed out some positives information for town, he noted that for the past 3 weeks building permits continue to come in through the building department. The committee chairman asked if there will more information to discuss in relation to financial crisis for the town by the next meeting which will be scheduled on April 22nd. He was assured that further information will be available from finance department.

6. Adjourn: A motion to adjourn by Jessica Norton and seconded by George Perkins. Meeting adjourned at 7:30.p m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly A. Bachand