

**Finance Committee
Minutes of May 23, 2016**

Present from the Finance Committee: Vice Chair Helen Hamel, Bob Corey, Ed Pitta, Joseph DiCarlo and Louise Tremblay (6:30p). Also present: Town Manager, James A. Duggan, Ann Vandal, Assistant Town Manager, and Recording Secretary Samantha Carver. The meeting was held at Town Hall Conference Room 1st floor, 62 Arlington Street, Dracut, MA.

Absent: Richard Ahern, Gerald D'Avolio

Also present was newly elected Town Moderator George Malliaros who stated to the Committee that he had informed Ms. Louise Tremblay via email that he was not reappointing her to the Committee at the end of her term. He stated that he is appointing new members on the Committee which will take effect after Town Meeting in accordance with Chapter 4 Section 2 of the Town Bylaws.

Vice Chairman Helen Hamel called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m. and began the meeting. Town Manager James Duggan began the explanation of the articles for the Committee and the Finance Committee recommended the following:

Article 3 – It was unanimously recommended the Town Treasurer enter into compensating balance agreements during the fiscal year as permitted by General Law Chapter 44 Section 5F;

Article 4 – It was unanimously recommended setting the salaries and compensation of all elective officers of the Town.

Article 5 – It was unanimously recommended to raise, and appropriate, borrow and/or transfer from available funds sums of money as may be necessary to defray Town charges and expenses for the fiscal year.

Article 6 – It was unanimously recommended to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money to operate the Sewer Department for the fiscal year.

Article 7 – It was unanimously recommended to raise and appropriate from available funds a sum of money to operate Kenwood Water Department for the fiscal year.

Article 8 – It was unanimously recommended to raise and appropriate, borrow and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money with said sum to be used for the Town's Chapter 90 Program which sum to be reimbursed 100% by the State of Massachusetts.

Article 9 – It was unanimously recommended to raise and appropriate, borrow and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money to be used for repayment of medical bills that have been incurred pursuant to G.L. Chapter 41 Section 100 and are outstanding from previous years.

Article 10 – It was unanimously recommended to appropriate from the Wetland Protection Fund a sum of money to be used in the fiscal year.

Article 11 (A) – *It was unanimously recommended to appropriate a sum of money from available “offset receipts” for the Board of Library Trustees for the fiscal year in accordance with G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E ½*

Article 11 (B) – *It was unanimously recommended to appropriate a sum of money from available “offset receipts” for the School Department for the fiscal year in accordance with G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E ½*

Article 11 (C) – *It was unanimously recommended to appropriate a sum of money from available “offset receipts” for the Council on Aging for the fiscal year in accordance with G.L. Chapter 44 Section 53E ½*

Article 12 – *It was unanimously recommended to appropriate from the Stabilization Fund a sum of money to fund FY2017 costs of purchasing equipment for Fire and Public Works Departments.*

Article 13 – *It was unanimously recommended to appropriate from the Tip Fee Reserve Fund a sum of money to be used in the fiscal year to defray cost of trash removal.*

Article 14 – *It was unanimously recommended to appropriate from the Cemetery Trust Fund a sum of money to be used in the fiscal year to defray costs associated with the expansion of cemeteries.*

Article 15 – *It was unanimously recommended to appropriate from the Englesby Debt Account a sum of money to be used in the fiscal year to defray Town charges and expenses and to make appropriations for the same.*

Article 16 – *It was unanimously recommended to appropriate from the Cemetery Trust Fund a sum of money to be used in the fiscal year to defray costs incurred by the Cemetery Department.*

Article 17 – *It was unanimously recommended to appropriate from Extra Polling Hours Reserve Account a sum of money to be used in the fiscal year to defray costs incurred by the Elections Department.*

Article 18 – *It was unanimously recommended to appropriate from the Town Hall Stabilization Fund a sum of money to be used in the fiscal year to defray costs associated with the debt for Town Hall construction.*

Article 19 – *It was unanimously recommended to appropriate from the Capital Improvement Fund a sum of money to be used in the fiscal year to defray costs associated with purchases for various departments.*

Article 20 – *It was unanimously recommended to increase the exemption amount of Clause 41C for the purpose of reducing the property tax for those that meet the income and asset qualifications.*

Article 21 – *It was unanimously recommended to appropriate or reserve for later appropriation monies from Community Preservation Fund annual revenues or available funds*

for the administrative expenses of the CPA, the payment of debt, the undertaking of projects and all other necessary and proper expenses for the year.

Article 22 – It was unanimously recommended to appropriate a sum of money for the purpose of completing survey forms for older properties with the Town of Dracut to be reimbursed with half the funds from a grant secured from Mass Historical Commission

Article 23 – It was unanimously voted to table any action on this article until 6:30 p.m. the night of Town Meeting to further discuss the article and/or possibly vote on the article prior to Town Meeting.

Article 24 – It was unanimously voted to table any action on this article until 6:30 p.m. the night of Town Meeting to further discuss the article and/or possibly vote on the article prior to Town Meeting.

Article 25 - It was unanimously voted to table any action on this article until 6:30 p.m. the night of Town Meeting to further discuss the article and/or possibly vote on the article prior to Town Meeting.

The Town Manager briefly explained Article 26 to the Finance Committee regarding adding four additional liquor licenses for restaurants. He stated that there are currently two restaurants interested in coming into Dracut. The other two licenses will be available for future restaurant prospects.

Minutes

Mr. Corey made a motion to approve the minutes of April 19, 2016 as presented. Ms. Tremblay seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

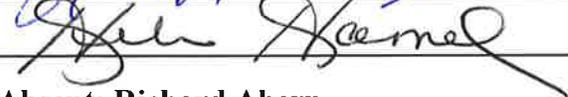
Adjourn

Mr. Corey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m. Ms. Tremblay seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE COMMITTEE







Absent: Richard Ahern _____



Absent: Gerald D'Avolio _____