

MINUTES OF MEETING OF WAREHAM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: September 11, 2019

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bernie Pigeon, Chair
David Heard, Vice Chair
Gerald Stefanski
Glenn Lawrence
Joe Smith
Stuart Novick
Dominic Cammarano (Arrived at 6:39 P.M.)

Members Absent: Tom Worthen
Pat Rumney

III. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

No-one came forward for Citizens Participation.

IV. FINANCE COMMITTEE MATTERS

A. 2019 Fall Town Meeting:

1. Review 2019 Fall Town Meeting Warrant.

NOTE: The meeting proceeded w/ item c. Petition Articles.

Article 24 – Petition: Plastic Bag Reduction Bylaw

Present before the FinCom: Norma White

Ms. White discussed a documentary she saw re: impacts on non-biodegradable plastics. She spoke re: the petition & how she obtained 72 signatures.

Ms. White spoke re: the Sierra Club's information on plastics. She stated the Town is a coastal community & there is concern re: the Town's wildlife & marine life. She stated non-biodegradable plastics is a world-wide problem. She noted that 122 towns/municipalities passed plastic bag ordinances/Bylaws in 2019. She also noted that based on the Sierra Club's information fact sheet, Wareham uses approx. seven (7) million plastic bags per year.

Mr. Heard asked re: the impacts to other towns that have adopted such a Bylaw. Ms. White stated that the re-usable bag fees are fees the stores can keep. She noted that the plastic bags clog up landfills.

NOTE: Mr. Cammarano arrived at this time.

Ms. White doesn't believe negative impacts to other towns has been great.

Ms. White stated MA Green.org has all the towns listed that adopted plastic bag ordinances/Bylaws. She noted the Town of Brewster is a model town to look at.

Mr. Pigeon feels that more specific information on the wording for the proposed Bylaw may be needed. Ms. Smith, Town Moderator suggested possibly a hand-out. Brief discussion ensued re: Section 1 & what it is in reference to.

a. Community Preservation Articles.

Present before the FinCom: Sandy Slavin, Co-Chair CPC
Brian Litchfield, Co-Chair CPC

Article 14 – CPC: Shangri-La Playground Build

Present before the FinCom: Ms. Mollison

Ms. Mollison explained that the Shangri-La Playground services 1,500 homes. She discussed the process in obtaining estimates & proposals for the playground equipment. The request is for \$220,000.00.

Ms. Mollison stated there is a neighborhood watch w/ over 500+ members. She discussed lighting options for later on.

Mr. Heard asked re: maintenance of the playground & if she has spoken to Municipal Maintenance. Ms. Mollison stated there are people willing to help w/ maintenance & keeping the area clean & tending to trash.

Article 15 – CPC: Wareham Youth Soccer Fields at Westfield

Present before the FinCom: Mr. Raterius

Mr. Raterius stated the Wareham Youth Soccer Club is looking for \$40,000.00 to improve & enhance the Westfield facilities. He stated the WYSC has signed an agreement w/ the Town to use half the field. They need help in enhancing the field. There is no parking, so they are looking to create parking & installing a security gate. They would also like to improve the storage shed. The WYSC has already spent \$10,000.00 of their own money & in-kind support in fixing up the field. He spoke re: the spring & fall leagues & travel teams which support approx.

300 children. He again stated they are asking for \$40,000.00 & they will be looking for in-kind donations & using registration fees for the rest of the money needed.

Article 16 – CPC Tremont Nail Cleanup Interest Payment

Ms. Slavin briefly discussed the article. Mr. Pigeon asked re: the principle payment. Ms. Slavin stated the interest amount is all she received from the Town Treasurer. She doesn't feel this project has been bonded yet.

b. Harbormaster/Natural Resources Articles.

Mr. Pigeon stated this discussion will be held at a later date.

c. Petition Articles. (DONE)

B. Discussion: FinCom Warrant Recommendations.

Mr. Pigeon suggested Warrant article recommendations be assigned to FinCom members & then he & Mr. Heard will review them.

The FinCom proceeded to review the 2019 Fall Town Meeting Warrant articles. Discussion ensued re: Article 24 & if it is legitimate the way it is written/worded.

C. Any other Finance Committee Matters.

V. LIAISON REPORTS

VI. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE & TIME

The next FinCom meeting will be held on September 18, 2019.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Heard moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 P.M. Mr. Cammarano seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous (7-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Barrasso
Kelly Barrasso, Transcriptionist

Date signed: 9/18/19

Attest: Bernie Pigeon (KB)
Bernie Pigeon, Chairman
WAREHAM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date copy sent to Town Clerk: 9/19/19