

MEETING MINUTES OF WAREHAM FINANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2017

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bernie Pigeon, Chairman
 Ellis Bailey, Clerk
 Joan Fontes
 Stuart Novick
 Glenn Lawrence
 Dominic Cammarano
 Tom Worthen
 David Heard (Arrived at 7:39 P.M.)

Member Absent: Pat Rumney

III. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

No-one came forward for Citizens Participation.

IV. PRESENTATIONS TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. Ken Buckland – Town Planner/CEDA – Wareham Master Plan.

Present before the FinCom: Ken Buckland, Town Planner/CEDA

Mr. Buckland spoke re: the Master Plan. He stated the last Master Plan was done in 1998.

Mr. Buckland proceeded to discuss the Master Plan process, what it is, & how the Town should use & implement the Master Plan.

Mr. Buckland explained SRPEDD has been hired w/ a State grant to help w/ the Master Plan process & to act as a consultant for the Open Space Recreation Plan.

Mr. Buckland stated meetings have been held to build on the Master Plan. When review is completed, it will go back to the public to see if they concur w/ the plan. A focus group meeting will also be assembled as well as having an on-line questionnaire.

Mr. Buckland asked the FinCom members what they feel should be incorporated into the Master Plan. Mr. Cammarano asked what the Master Plan is supposed to accomplish. Mr. Buckland stated the Master Plan should define a vision for the Town. It would also incorporate goals of Town businesses, residents, & the public.

Mr. Ellis feels that smart development is needed as well as improvements to the school system. He feels the Town needs to attract businesses, not just retail. He feels the tax base needs to be increased to help the school system.

Brief discussion ensued re: benefits of a commuter train center in Town & the length of a commute to Boston.

Mr. Worthen stated the Town needs to look at how the Town is governed & look at separate entities (fire departments, water departments, etc.) to have a more regionalization of service.

Discussion ensued re: the Town's school system & the need for a good system to attract people to live in Town.

Mr. Lawrence asked to what degree the Master Plan is legally binding. Mr. Buckland stated there is a State law that speaks to the content that needs to be in a Master Plan. He stated it is up to the Town to implement the plan & update the plan periodically.

Mr. Buckland hopes that new zoning recommendations will be part of the Master Plan.

Mr. Buckland stated any further ideas can be forwarded to him as the process goes along. He can provide the goals & objectives of the 1998 Master Plan to the members if they wish. Mr. Worthen feels the Master Plan should also be used as a marketing document for the Town.

B. Missy Dziczek, Director of Council on Aging.

Present before the FinCom: Missy Dziczek, COA Director

Ms. Dziczek distributed documents containing statistics. She is looking for the COA Director position to be part of the Town budget that will be implemented in July 2018. The COA Director salary was in the current budget for six months, but the money is gone now. There are some grants to cover the remaining costs of a Director. She stated a COA Director is needed to keep things going at the COA. She noted the COA continues to grow & there are many needs that don't cost the Town a lot of money.

Ms. Dziczek stated she is looking for \$65,000 to fund the Director position & benefits.

Ms. Dziczek proceeded to discuss the statistic document. She discussed being involved w/ the school system & seeking inter-generational activities. The COA is also a social service agency. She noted on an average day, 100 seniors come to the center. She also noted the Town of Wareham is the only town in the Commonwealth that doesn't fund their COS. She stated there may be additional grants that can supplement the Director's salary.

V. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A. Close-out of FY2017.**
- B. Update on FY2018 budget.**
- C. Fiscal expectations for Fall Town Meeting.**
- D. Any other fiscal matters.**

The Town Administrator was not present at this meeting. He did, however, leave fiscal documents for the FinCom members to review. Mr. Pigeon suggested the FinCom review the documentation submitted by the Town Administrator. (Attached as reference).

VI. FINANCE COMMITTEE MATTERS

A. Annual/Special Fall Town Meeting schedule.

The FinCom members reviewed the Annual/Special Fall Town Meeting schedule. Mr. Pigeon noted the first meeting the FinCom will discuss the articles for the Warrant will be September 13, 2017.

Brief discussion ensued re: the Community Preservation proposed article that deals w/ a church request & the lawsuit (dealing w/ separation of church & State) being taken in Acton dealing w/ a similar article.

Present before the FinCom: Selectman Slavin, BOS Liaison

Selectman Slavin stated Town Counsel has advised not going forward w/ this article dealing w/ the church's request.

NOTE: Present before the FinCom: Gerry Stefanski

Mr. Stefanski stated he has applied for a position on the FinCom. He discussed his education & work experience. He noted the Appointing Authority will be interviewing him next week. He would be taking the place of Mr. Worthen.

NOTE: The meeting proceeded w/ item C. Approve invoice – Association of Finance Committees dues - \$280.00.

MOTION: Mr. Cammarano moved to approve an invoice from the Association of Finance Committees re: dues in the amount of \$280.00. Ms. Fontes seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous (7-0-0)

NOTE: The meeting proceeded w/ item VII. Approve meeting minutes: June 14, 2017.

MOTION: Mr. Cammarano moved to approve the meeting minutes of June 14, 2017. Mr. Novick seconded.

VOTE: (5-0-2)

Ms. Fontes & Mr. Lawrence abstained

NOTE: The meeting proceeded w/ item VIII. Any Other Business.

Mr. Pigeon spoke re: FinCom liaisons to other boards, committees, etc. He stated a liaison list will be sent out to members.

Mr. Pigeon stated the Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall will be coming to Town on August 17, 2017.

NOTE: Mr. Heard arrived at this time.

B. Minot School building update.

Mr. Heard provided an update on the Minot School building. He stated a meeting was held w/ core members of the School Building Committee on July 24, 2017. He noted that several members on this

committee grew up on Town. He stated options for the building were discussed w/ the SBA. He noted what the options are. He noted, if it is decided to go w/ two schools, the options will increase.

Mr. Heard stated that scheduling was also discussed. The timeframe for acceptance of the project is two years & breaking ground is anticipated to take place in 2020. Approval of the Town is also needed. Funding will be needed by the Town w/ 70% being paid by the State. The will likely request a 20-year bond. Discussion ensued.

Discussion ensued re: the original article only dealing w/ the Minot Forest School & now, language being discussed includes the Decas School & issues the bonding company may have w/ this.

C. Approve invoice - Association of Finance Committees dues - \$280.00. (DONE)

VII. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES: JUNE 14, 2017 (DONE)

VIII. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (Unanticipated Items)

IX. NEXT MEETING DATE & TIME

The next FinCom meeting will be held on September 13, 2017.

X. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Fontes moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 P.M. Mr. Cammarano seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous (8-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Barrasso, Transcriptionist

Date signed: _____

Attest: _____
Ellis Bailey, Clerk
WAREHAM FINANCE COMMITTEE

Date copy sent to Town Clerk: _____