

Finance Committee Meeting

Minutes – October 16, 2014

Town Hall, Lower Level Hearing Room, 7:30 P.M.

Members Present: Patricia-Lee Achorn, William Brack, Arnold Cohen (late), Gordon Gladstone,
Alexander Korin, Ira Miller, Laura Nelson, Edward Philips (late), (Hamilton)

Absent: Aaron Agulnek, Charles Goodman

1. The first item on the agenda was Jane Desberg, Director, Sharon Housing Authority.
2. Jane Desberg spoke on Article 6, CPC-Sharon Housing Authority request for \$45,000 for Window & Roof Replacement at South Pleasant Street School Family Housing Development. She stated that the Housing Authority applied for a grant, High Leverage Asset Program for Housing Authority. Received \$120,000 grant. Have architect, DHCD, and Mass. Housing Partnership. We asked for windows and they included the roof. There are six units and 14 windows in each apartment. Working with Historical Commission as it is in the Historical District. We have windows that are maintenance free.
3. There was some discussion regarding Article 6 on what was being done and that the Community Preservation Committee had voted and approved to support the article, with the funds coming from Historical.
4. The next item on the agenda was Article 7, Establishment of Stabilization Fund – Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical School District.
5. Mark Morris, School Business Manager of Southeastern Regional School District, stated that only four communities had responded, to date, with one positive, one no action, and two voted no. The School Committee would establish the Stabilization Fund for the purpose of capital improvements without going to each town to assess money.
6. There was considerable discussion on Article 7 regarding how the fund would work, where the money would come from, and what it could be spent on under the law.
7. The next item was to deliberate and vote on the Warrant Articles.
8. Article 1. Transfer of funds from Treasurer's account to Accounting account.
9. A **MOTION** was made by Ted Philips and **SECONDED** by Gordon Gladstone to recommend in favor of Article 1.
10. **VOTED:** 8-0-0. For: Achorn, Brack, Cohen, Gladstone, Korin, Miller, Nelson, Philips.
11. Article 2. Purchase of 175 Pond Street.
12. A **MOTION** was made by Ted Philips and **SECONDED** by Gordon Gladstone to recommend in favor of Article 2, not to exceed \$375,000.

13. Laura Nelson stated that if it is a building over 100 years old, moratorium on demolition for six months. Built in 1900.
14. It was suggested that the following be added to the recommendation: Subject to any moratorium that might be imposed by the Sharon Historical Commission.
15. **VOTED:** 8-0-0. For: Achorn, Brack, Cohen, Gladstone, Korin, Miller, Nelson, Philips.
16. Article 3. Transfer middle school project funds to public safety building project.
17. A **MOTION** was made by Gordon Gladstone and **SECONDED** by Ted Philips to recommend in favor of Article 3.
18. There was some discussion on the motion. There was some concern regarding the amount of money to be borrowed, \$24,750,000, but unclear about how the transfer of the \$769,000 would be used.
19. There was a suggestion to use recommendation in Warrant subject to Town Administrator determining the technical issue on the transfer of funds.
20. **VOTED:** 8-0-0. For: Achorn, Brack, Cohen, Gladstone, Korin, Miller, Nelson, Philips.
21. Article 4. Re-appropriate funds for Library approved at 2014 ATM.
22. A **MOTION** was made by Ted Philips and **SECONDED** by Gordon Gladstone to recommend in favor of Article 4 in the amount of \$25,000.
23. **VOTED:** 8-0-0. For: Achorn, Brack, Cohen, Gladstone, Korin, Miller, Nelson, Philips.
24. Article 5. Reallocation of funds for Fire Department & appropriate additional funds for portable radios.
25. A **MOTION** was made by Gordon Gladstone and **SECONDED** by Ted Philips to recommend in favor of Article 5.
26. **VOTED:** 8-0-0. For: Achorn, Brack, Cohen, Gladstone, Korin, Miller, Nelson, Philips.
27. Article 6. CPC – Sharon Housing Authority request for \$45,000 for Window & Roof Replacement at South Pleasant Street School Family Housing Development.
28. A **MOTION** was made by Ted Philips and **SECONDED** by Gordon Gladstone to recommend in favor of Article 6, Sharon Housing Authority in the amount of \$45,000.
29. **VOTED:** 8-0-0. For: Achorn, Brack, Cohen, Gladstone, Korin, Miller, Nelson, Philips.
30. Article 6. CPC – Library Palladium Windows request for \$2,500 for Window Repair at the Carnegie Library.

31. A **MOTION** was made by Ted Philips and **SECONDED** by Pat Achorn to recommend in favor of Article 6, Carnegie Library Palladium Windows in the amount of \$2,500.
32. **VOTED:** 8-0-0. For: Achorn, Brack, Cohen, Gladstone, Korin, Miller, Nelson, Philips.
33. Article 7. Establishment of Stabilization Fund – Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical School District.
34. A **MOTION** was made by Gordon Gladstone and **SECONDED** by Ira Miller to not recommend Article 7 for Stabilization Fund.
35. There was some discussion on the motion regarding mandated assessment and additional increases to the budget beyond the mandated assessment.
36. **VOTED:** 8-0-0. For: Achorn, Brack, Cohen, Gladstone, Korin, Miller, Nelson, Philips.
37. Article 8. Animal Control by-law update.
38. A **MOTION** was made by Ted Philips and **SECONDED** by Gordon Gladstone to recommend in favor of Article 8.
39. There was some discussion on the motion stating that all changes are to track update to conform to state law and the late fee would be \$50 instead of \$25.
40. **VOTED:** 8-0-0. For: Achorn, Brack, Cohen, Gladstone, Korin, Miller, Nelson, Philips.
41. Upcoming meetings after the Fall Town Meeting will be the budget to be coordinated to go out with Selectmen's sector, in December and January.
42. It was announced there would be no meeting on October 20.
43. If there is no meeting on October 27, the next meeting will be November 10, 2014, at 7:30 p.m., prior to the Open Warrant Meeting at 8 p.m.
44. It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** to adjourn.
45. **VOTED:** 8-0-0.
46. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.