



## Freetown Finance Committee

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Monday, May 15, 2017 @ 7:00 PM

2017 JUN 13 PM 2:17

Members present: George, Kent, Mikki, Joel, Bob, David - George called the meeting to order 7:01 PM

George opened meeting with meeting he attended with the BOS and the BOS from Lakeville on the school budget. It was agreed that the School Budget for 2017-2018 would calculate using Option 3. Lisa stated that more dollars should be given to the schools as the town currently has the monies to support this option.

Transfer of Funds for Water and Sewer in the amount of \$65,900 was scratched as it has been added to the Warrants for Special Town Meeting.

George went through the Articles for both Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting placing "holds" on the articles that needed discussion.

**Motion was made by Kent to approve articles with no "holds", seconded by Mikki – unanimous**

The following articles with holds for Town Meeting were discussed –

- Article 2: Annual salaries for elected officials not under contract, looks like no more than 5% was allotted
- Article 7: Cost of \$2,854 for a shed, were there any bids, what is average cost
- Article 8: Transfer of \$3500 for a scan tool, what purpose, are there other costs connected with tool
- Article 14: To merge Water Enterprise Fund and Sewer Enterprise Fund into one fund under Water-Sewer Enterprise Fund
- Articles 15, 16, 17: Contingent on whether Article 14 passes
- Article 18: Sum of \$650,000 for upgrades to So Main St Water Treatment and Filtration System, thought this was part of the \$3 mil request, has it been broken in segments, what is the actual figure, will businesses take the brunt of burden – move to a separate vote
- Article 23: Trust fund for retiree benefits, eventually this will bankrupt the town, where will the monies come from, currently adding monies to this fund annually but not sufficient

**Motion made by Joel to approve all articles held except Article 18, seconded by David – unanimous**

Need a statement put to voters for cost to town members requiring 2/3 vote. Hold vote and discussion of Article 18 after all articles are discussed.

The following articles with holds for the Special Town Meeting were discussed –

- Article 1: Sum of \$70,000 to pave Copicut Road, there are 4 homes involved, Chapter 90 eligible  
**Motion made by Bob to not recommend, seconded by David – unanimous**
- Article 4: Sum of \$65,900 for upgrading filtration system  
**Motion made by David to not recommend, seconded by Mikki – 4 for/1 against – approved**

Any discussion on Omnibus Budget – Bob stated if any, it is too late at this time for changes.

**Motion made by Bob to accept the Omnibus, seconded by Kent – unanimous**

**Motion made by David to not recommend Article 18, seconded by Joel – 3 for/1 against/1 abstain – approved**

George asked if 5-23 at 6:30 for a meeting to cover Article 18 issues and prepare a statement would be possible. It was agreed and Lois will post the meeting at the COA. We will also cover/discuss a transfer for funds for Legal which was not on this meeting's agenda.

**Motion was made by Kent to accept the minutes of 5-1, seconded by Mikki – unanimous**

**Motion was made by Mikki to adjourn, seconded by Kent – unanimous**

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Amaral, Finance Committee Senior Clerk