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Freetown Finance Committee

gab

Meeting 9-20-2016 @ 7:00 w/Board of Selectmen

Members present: George, Kent, Joel, Bob, Paul

Paul called BOS meeting to order at 7:00 PM

George called FinCom to order at 7:00 PM

Article 1: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$2,300 for a dog license data base allowing registration and payment on line. BOS approved.

Paul asked if the FinCom needed more information and not needing it asked if they would vote to approve. George said they would do the voting after the BOS meeting and would just ask for information as needed.

Article 2: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$126,225 to supplement the personnel budget for the Police Department (second year costs). BOS approved.

Article 3: Already approved at Special Town Meeting of October 2015 as Article 6 for tree work. BOS approved.

Article 4: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$219.60 for personnel costs to the Town Clerk budget for coverage of added hours due to the presidential election. BOS approved, Lisa abstained.

Article 5: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$925,000 for bond for rehabilitation of Locust Street bridge. Requested it be changed to \$900,000. BOS approved at \$900.000.

Article 6: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$550,000 to complete engineering, design, site evaluation, project management, and construction of a new Police Station. HOLD

Article 7: Transfer/appropriate funds for contractual bus services, no dollar amount. HOLD

Article 8: To change the number of FinCom members from 7 (seven) to 5 (five). Will need to amend the by-laws. Kent added this as a place marker and it needed to be discussed by the FinCom. HOLD

Article 9: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$20,000 for account ledgers. Have an evaluation of all town records, what needs to be kept and stored and how to store them. Can you have the evaluation completed for \$5,000 and call departments be included. HOLD

Article 10: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$50,000 for the Water Department Enterprise Fund for budget flexibility. BOS approved.

Article 11: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$157.00 for the Sewer Department Enterprise Fund for OMNIBUS reduction. BOS approved, Paul abstained.



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Article 12: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$9,635. BOS approved

Article 13: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$18,725 for Water Department to pay prior bills to Fall River. BOS approved.

Article 14: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$67,170 for Sewer Department to pay prior bills to Fall River. BOS approved.

Article 15: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$45,000.69 for Water Department to pay bills to New Bedford. BOS approved.

Article 16: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$3,030 for water bills to Fall River from Innovation Way. BOS approved.

Article 17: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$14,000 for water, \$21,000 for sewer for new vehicle. Withdrawn.

Article 17: Transfer/appropriate funds for the Stabilization Fund. Move to last article.

Article 17: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$1,500 for budget of the Historical Society. Withdrawn.

Article 17: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$4,300 to install methane detectors at the landfill. BOS approved.

Article 18: Transfer/appropriate funds for the care, custodial, and contractual costs for conservation of foreclosures. BOS approved.

Article 19: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$5,000 for the Tree Warden. BOS approved, Lisa abstained.

Article 20: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$68,500 for the pavement of Copicut Road. Should come from the Stabilization Fund. HOLD

Article 21: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$3.28 for power of contract and \$10,000 for approval for BOS. Withdrawn.

Article 21: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$12,500 to hire a consultant to prepare grants for the COA. Withdrawn.

Article 21: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$115,000 for a project manager for a new library. Lisa suggested it be put off until 2022. Withdrawn.

Article 21: Change zoning by-laws in regards to scrap, junk, and salvage. BOS approved, Bob abstained.

Article 22: Change zoning of residential to open space. BOS approved with changes, Bob abstained.



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Article 23: Amend zoning by-laws for commercial recycling. BOS approved, Bob abstained.

Article 24: Petition for a digital billboard be installed that can be viewed by Route 24 traffic. Needs to go to Special Town Meeting for vote.

Article 25: Section 77.C for 0 Chase Road for taxes owed. Withdrawn

Article 25: Transfer/appropriate funds of \$250,000 be moved to supplement the Capitalization Fund. BOS approved.

Lisa made a motion to close warrants, seconded by Bob. BOS approved.

BOS meeting closed 8:35.

Kent made a motion to accept the minutes for 7-15-2016 and 7-11-2016. Not necessary to approve the minutes of 9-6-2016 as the meeting was not called. Seconded by Paul. Unanimous.

George opened discussion on the Articles.

Bob made a motion to approve all the articles approved by the BOS, seconded by Kent – unanimous.

George opened the FinCom reduction article. Kent made a statement the reduction was necessary as they cannot get a full committee and many meetings there is no quorum for voting privileges. Bob said if the number was lowered the by-laws would need to be changed.

Kent made a motion to approve the reduction with the by-law change, seconded by Joel. Approved, Bob abstained.

Paul made a motion to not recommend approval of the billboard, seconded by Joel. Approved, Kent abstained.

George made a suggestion that before Annual Town Meeting that FinCom meet with department heads for discussion/clarification of any issues. Also asked how the board felt about have a Town Manager. No decisions or voting was done on either of these items.

George stated the next meeting will be one hour before Special Town Meeting on October 18, 2016 at 6:00 PM. Lois will post.

Motion to adjourn made by Joel, seconded by Paul. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned 9:32 PM

Respectfully submitted
Lois Amaral, Senior Clerk
Finance Committee
