

# FINAL

## Town of Weare Finance Committee

### Minutes of the Meeting of Wednesday, February 1, 2012

The meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the Conservation Committee Room of the Town Office Building and was called to order by the Gregg Elwood at 7:01 p.m.

All committee members were present: Jill Dagenais, Gregg Elwood (chairman), Johnna Grzywacz, Neal Kurk, Paul Marsh, John Rauscher, Ike Shepard, Jeff Spring and Mark Sullivan. Also present for part of the meeting were police chief Greg Begin and road agent Tim Redmond.

**1. Presentations.** Chief Begin spoke to the committee about the department's overtime line. Of the 1,313 hours of overtime in the first four months of 2011, 435.5 were used to cover vacant shifts and vacations, 274 hours were for judicial prosecutions, 28.5 were spent on public relations, 88 on training, 105 for the canine officer and 115 to cover holidays.

Tim Redmond described the merit raise provisions of the highway department collective bargaining agreement, which is modeled on one used in Bedford. He estimated the average raise would likely be between 2% and 2.5%.

Gregg informed the board that the selectmen proposed lower the police overtime line by \$20,000 and would amend Article 19 so that, if it passed, the maintenance savings of \$7200 from new computer equipment purchases would be reflected in the budget. A discussion of the police budget and highway department CBA followed.

**2. Town recommendations.** The committee reviewed its recommendations on town warrant articles:

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| a. Art. 9 (budget)                           | recommended (8 – 1),<br>assuming the police department overtime line is reduced by \$20,000.  |
| b. Art. 10 (town employee raises)            | recommended (9-0),<br>subject to an amendment requiring the selectmen to begin implementing health insurance cost-sharing by the end of 2012 and to bring the cost-sharing up to the average standard for towns by the end of 2014. |
| c. Art. 11 (public works contract)           | not recommended (3 – 6)   |
| d. Art. 12 (fire truck)                      | recommended (8 – 0)   |
| e. Art. 13 (defibrillator)                   | recommended (7 – 1)   |
| f. Art. 14 (road reconstruction)             | recommended (8 – 0)   |
| g. Art. 15 (highway equipment)               | recommended (6 – 2)   |
| h. Art. 16 (transfer station trailer, baler) | recommended (8 – 0)   |
| i. Art. 17 ([police cruiser)                 | no recommendation,<br>as the selectmen plan to reduce the amount to zero.   |
| j. Art. 18 (police communications equipment) | recommended (8 – 0)   |
| k. Art. 19 (computer equipment)              | recommended (8 – 0),  |

provided the appropriate computer maintenance contract line in the budget is reduced by \$7,200.

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| l. Art. 20 (retirement accrual fund)           | not recommended (5 – 4) |
| m. Art. 21 ((library hours)                    | recommended (7 – 1)     |
| n. Art. 22 (cemetery cy pres)                  | recommended (8 – 0)     |
| o. Art. 23 (hazardous waste)                   | recommended (8 – 0)     |
| p. Art. 24 (fireworks)                         | recommended (6 – 2)     |
| q. Art. 25 (forest management)                 | recommended (8 – 0)     |
| r. Art. 28 (finance committee article changes) | recommended (8 – 0)     |

**3. Weare schools recommendations.** The committee reviewed its recommendations on the Weare School District warrant articles.

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| a. Article 3 (budget):                              | recommended (8 – 1), |
| provided it is reduced by \$50,000 to \$13,379,845. |                      |
| b. Art. 4 (teachers' contract)                      | recommended (6 -- 2) |
| c. Art. 6 (roof replacement fund)                   | recommended (8 – 0)  |
| d. Art. 9 (special education fund)                  | recommended (6 – 2)  |

**4. John Stark high school recommendations.** The committee reviewed its recommendations on the John Stark school warrant articles.

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| a. Art. 3 (budget)                    | recommended (8 – 0) |
| b. Art. 4 (teachers' contract)        | recommended (8 – 0) |
| c. Art. 6 (support staff contract)    | recommended (8 – 0) |
| d. Art. 8 (building and grounds fund) | recommended (8 – 0) |
| e. Art. 9 (special education fund)    | recommended (6 – 2) |

**5. Minutes.** On motion by Ike, seconded by Johnna, the minutes of the meeting of January 18 - 20, 2012, were approved with minor changes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Neal M. Kurk, Secretary