

Board Members Present: Lois Stearns, Daniel Campbell, Chad Glover, Bonnie L'Etoile, and Bernhard Porada
Also Present: Brian Noble, Town Administrator; Deb Mero, Town Accountant; Tom Walker, Highway Superintendent; and Bethany Walker, FINCOM Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Stearns. This meeting was not video recorded.

- **Justification for Special Town Meeting Articles from Departments/Committees Involved**

- All members of the FINCOM received a draft warrant, article numbers are subject to change however for the purpose of minutes, articles will be referenced as per the drafted warrant article number.
- T. Walker discussed article # 7: an electric gate for the salt shed.
 - Gate would prevent individuals from taking larger than necessary amounts of sand
 - Per Noble, the Selectboard support this article
 - Noble stated this article is preferred to be on STM warrant instead of ATM warrant so it can be used this winter.

7:05 Lara Dubin, NES PTO Member and Eric Meals, Sewer Plant Operator, joined meeting

- T. Walker discussed article # 14: Highway Dump truck (replacing the old Sterling)
 - The current truck has had a significant amount of money put into it to maintain it.
 - Noble does not feel this truck can be put off any longer.
 - \$170,000

7:15 Cheryl George, NES PTO Member, joined meeting

- T. Walker discussed article #15: Maintenance Truck w/Plow
 - Truck would be smaller than current maintenance truck.
 - \$48,000

7:32 T. Walker leaves meeting

- Dubin and George discussed article #18: Equipment for NES Playground
 - Swings to replace existing swing set. Currently have 2 sets of 4 swings, would like to use funds to purchase 2 sets of 6 swings, along with a therapeutic swing.
 - Original quote was for \$13,000, however with volunteer help, they believe they can cut the cost.

7:31 Dubin & George leave meeting

7:32 Tony Matteo join meeting

- Meals discussed article #17: Purchase of a new Sewer Truck
 - Truck would include a plow for Meals to be able to plow the sewer plant; current truck would be reverted to the Highway Department and not be replaced in the future.
 - Meals stated this money would come from the Enterprise fund.
 - The Sewer Commissioners supported this purchase.

7:42 Meals leaves meeting

- Noble discussed the remaining articles
 - Article 2: By-Law change requires 2/3rd vote
 - Article 3: To codify the Northfield Zoning By-Law as adopted. The FINCOM recommends. *A motion was made by L'Etoile, seconded by Matteo and **VOTED** to support and recommend*

article 3 in the amount of \$10,000. In Favor: Stearns, Glover, Matteo, L'Etoile, Porada
Abstained: Campbell

- Article 4: Board of Health for payment of incurred bills from prior years. \$3090.35. *A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Glover and VOTED unanimously to support and recommend article 4 in the amount of \$3090.35*
- Article 5: Skip discussion on it as it is a non-money article
- Article 6: To repurpose \$19,127.32 from previous town meeting articles into a new account entitled "Town Buildings – Maintenance, Furnishings & Repair". Mero stated that she had a different dollar amount; she and Noble to review at later time. FINCOM approval in theory. *A motion was made by Glover, seconded by Matteo and VOTED unanimously to recommend and support article 6.*
- Article 7: Salt Shed Fence/Gate. *A motion was made by Glover, seconded by Campbell and VOTED unanimously to recommend to support \$28,000 for the gate.*
- Article 8: Skip discussion on it as it is a non-money article
- Article 9: The Board of Assessors Personal Property Exemption. *A motion was made by L'Etoile, seconded by Campbell and VOTED unanimously to support article #9.*
- Article 10 & 11: Revoke/Suspend/deny permits. *A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Glover and VOTED unanimously to recommend to support article 10. Article 11 is part of article 10.*
- Article 12: Amend the Employee Compensation Plan. *A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Matteo and VOTED to recommend to support article 12. In Favor Votes: Stearns, Glover, Matteo, Porada. Opposed Votes: L'Etoile. Abstained: Campbell. Further discussion on this article revealed that the wording needed to be improved and edited. A motion was made by Matteo, seconded by Porada and VOTED unanimously to rescind the previous vote.*
- Article 13: Waterproofing of Town Hall Exterior. *A motion was made by Matteo, seconded by Campbell and VOTED to support article 13 in the amount of \$8000. In Favor Votes: Stearns, Campbell, Matteo, Glover, Porada. Opposed Votes: L'Etoile*
- Article 14: Highway Truck. *A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Porada and VOTED unanimously to support article 14 in the amount of \$170,000*
- Article 15: Maintenance Truck. *A motion was made by L'Etoile, seconded by Glover and VOTED unanimously to support article 15 in the amount of \$48,000*
- Article 16: Creating an account to maintain the Historical Markers as the donated funds have depleted. *A motion was made by L'Etoile, seconded by Glover and VOTED to support article 16 in the amount of \$1000. In Favor Votes: Stearns, Campbell, Matteo, Glover, Porada. Opposed Votes: L'Etoile*
- Article 17: Sewer Truck. *A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by L'Etoile and VOTED unanimously to support article 17 in the amount of \$40,000.*
- Article 18: Northfield Elementary Playground. *A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Porada and VOTED to support article 18 in the amount of \$10,000. In Favor Votes: Stearns, Campbell, Matteo, Glover, Porada. Opposed Votes: L'Etoile*
- Approve the source of funds for the above articles
- *A motion was made by Matteo, seconded by Campbell and VOTED to recommend the source of funds for the above money articles to come from Sewer Enterprise Fund, EMS Enterprise Fund, Transfers and/or Overlay Surplus. In Favor Votes: Stearns, Glover, Campbell, Matteo, Porada. Opposed Votes: L'Etoile.*
- Noble to talk to heads of EMS & SEWER Enterprise Accounts regarding funding.

• **Transfer Request**

- Noble advised that a parcel of land now owned by the Town of Northfield is in need of a fence to protect it from further receiving more trash from trespassers. The DEP wants a fence around property. *A motion was made by L'Etoile, seconded by Campbell and VOTED unanimously to approve a*

transfer in the amount of \$8500 from the Reserve Fund to a new account (Mero to name) just for this sole purpose.

- **Minutes**

- The minutes from the September 12, 2016 meeting were reviewed.
 - *A motion was made by L'Etoile, seconded by Glover and **VOTED** unanimously to accept the September 12th, 2016 meeting minutes as written.*

- **Mail**

- Thank You from the Librarian and Staff to the FINCOM for recommending and supporting the paving of the parking lot at Dickinson Library.
- Mero provided account balances through to the end of September.
- PVRSD Superintendent Ruth Miller responded to Stearns letter about the election of the 4 towns committee members staggering terms.

- **Meetings Attended as representatives of the FINCOM**

- Stearns stated that Glover no longer wishes to be the representative for the FINCOM on the Emergency Services Facility Committee so she has appointed Porada who is willing to be the FINCOM representative.
- Matteo stated that the Community Preservation Committee is currently unable to meet as they do not have enough members. There are only 4 members now and they need 5 to meet. Matteo is currently the chair of the committee.
- Stearns, Noble, Mero and Selectboard member Julia Blyth attended the What's New in Municipal Law seminar.

- **Next Meeting**

- November 14th 2016 at 7 pm. Stearns advised that PVRSD Superintendent, Ruth Miller and our School Committee members will be attending this meeting for an Open Discussion of the Towns financial status.

A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Glover and **VOTED** unanimously to adjourn the FINCOM Meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm

Submitted by:
Bethany Walker
FINCOM Secretary

Approved On: 11-14-16

Approved By: Lois M. Stearns

