

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Lois Stearns, Dan Campbell, Bernhard Porada, and Sue Kaczenski

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Bonnie L'Etoile and Tony Matteo

ALSO PRESENT: Phil Gilfeather-Girton, Town Accountant

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Stearns

This meeting was not video recorded, only voice recorded

• **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Minutes from June 11th, 2019 were reviewed
 - Kaczenski noted that in the motion regarding article 3 of the Special Town Meeting warrant, the numbers were reversed for what was recommended by the FINCOM and what was requested by the PVRSD School Committee. Stearns to correct on the minutes to be submitted.
 - *A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Porada and **VOTED** unanimously to approve the June 11th, 2019 minutes as amended.*

• **COMMUNICATIONS**

- Memo (6/12/19) from Gilfeather-Girton end of year procedures for paying/submitting bills. All bills due to him by July 12th

• **TRANSFER REQUESTS**

- A request from Campbell (TOWN CLERK) from Town Clerk Expenses to Election and Registration Expenses in the amount of \$1060 to offset cost of the extra voting machine that was not anticipated and extra election (the primary) election worker salary.
 - Campbell asked whether he should abstain when there are only 4 FINCOM members present. Stearns stated that she will go by the Rule of Necessity and Campbell will be allowed to vote.
 - *A motion was made by Porada, seconded by Kaczenski and **VOTED** unanimously to approve the transfer request in the amount of \$1060 from Town Clerk Expenses to Election and Registration account.*
- Stearns advised that Llamas, Town Administrator, will have more transfer requests that the FINCOM will have to review at their next meeting (7/2/2019)

• **CITIZENS CONCERNS/ ITEMS NOT GENERALLY ANTICIPATED 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THIS MEETING**

- Papers referencing financial figures on table at Special Town Meeting, source unknown; discussion.

• **REVIEW AND DETERMINE ACTION DENYING OPEN MEETING LAW VIOLATION COMPLAINT**

- There was a complaint filed in all 4 towns, FINCOMs and Selectboards, for the meeting held on June 10 (the 4 town meeting of Selectboard and FINCOMs). Complaint filed by Bernardston School Committee Representative, Michael Townsley.
- *A motion was made by Stearns, seconded by Campbell and **VOTED** unanimously. The motion is as follows: The Committee hereby acknowledges receipt of the Open Meeting Law Complaint from Michael Townsley dated June 12, 2019 and received June 13, 2019. Following its review, discussion and deliberation of the Complaint, the Board votes to issue a response as follows:*
 1. *The June 10, 2019 meeting of the Finance Committee was duly noticed and opened;*
 2. *Without waiving its claim that the June 10, 2019 meeting was properly posted and opened, the Committee maintains that any alleged violation of the Open Meeting Law was cured by a June 11, 2019 duly notice meeting of the Finance Committee at which the final recommendation of School District budget request was entertained and voted;*

3. *The Complaint does not set forth any facts or allegations that the Committee deliberated outside of a public meeting and it is the Committee's position that no improper deliberation took place outside of a public meeting;*
4. *Consistent with its review of the Complaint and its discussions tonight, the Committee authorizes Town Counsel to respond to the Complaint as deliberated, on its behalf, and designates the Town Administrator to work with Town Counsel to issue its final response.*

- **MEETINGS ATTENDED REPRESENTING THE FINCOM**

- Porada (Emergency Services Facility Committee): 6/12/19 was supposed to be the next meeting; however, a meeting/agenda was never posted. New meeting posted for 7/3/19 at 4pm and the Town Administrator is now the point person who will be responsible for the posting of meetings to avoid any other similar incidents.
- Matteo (Community Preservation Committee): n/a
- Matteo (H.E.A.R.T Committee): n/a
- Stearns: n/a
- Brief discussion on the budget situation concerning the PVRSD

- **NEXT MEETING**

- 7/2/2019 at 6 pm
A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Matteo and VOTED unanimously to adjourn the FINCOM Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm

Submitted by:

Bethany Walker

FINCOM Secretary

Approved On: 7-2-19

Approved By: 