

**TOWN OF KINGSTON
MASSACHUSETTS**

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes
13 October 2005

A meeting of the Kingston Finance Committee was opened by Chairperson Jean Landis Naumann at 7:30 PM at the Kingston Town Hall on 3 October 2005. Also present were Frederick Baughman, Richard Gardner, Mathew Hamilton, and Maurice Simard. Jean Landis Naumann reported that Mary Lou Thimas has submitted a letter of resignation.

Kathleen Voigt met with the Committee to describe her interest in and qualifications for filling a vacancy on the Audit Committee.

Upon motion made by Richard Gardner and seconded by Maurice Simard, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To appoint Kathleen Voigt as the Finance Committee's representative on the Audit Committee.

Town Treasurer John LaBrache met with the Committee to discuss several articles on the special town meeting Warrant.

He noted that Article 17 asks the Town to accept MGL c.41 §108P which authorizes an annual bonus of \$1000 for a treasurer and a collector who has served three years on the job and has achieved certification for their position. He noted the collector is eligible for that provision this year and that he will be in 2007 and that a similar provision has been accepted by the town for the Town Clerk and Assessor.

Upon motion made by Richard Gardner and seconded by Fred Baughman, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend at the special town meeting favorable action on Article 17.

The Treasurer reported that the Town cannot afford more debt and that it will need a debt exclusion if it votes to borrow \$1.8million for a new senior center. He recommended holding a special election on 3 December 2005 to ask the voters to act on a debt exclusion of \$3 million to include \$1.2million previously borrowed for the school and \$1.8million of new debt for the senior center. He noted that the Conservation Commission has not yet signed off on the intended site for the senior center. He also reported his intention to refinance some debt to obtain a lower rate.

The Treasurer submitted to the Committee a Kingston Financial Trend Monitoring Report (KFTMR) for its review and made an appointment to have a discussion about it on 17 November 2005.

Upon motion made by Frederick Baughman and seconded by Mathew Hamilton, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on paying an FY05 unpaid bill of \$596.25 due Police Matrons.

Upon motion made by Richard Gardner and seconded by Mathew Hamilton, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on Article 2 which requests revising the salary of the Chairman of the Water Commission.

Upon motion made by Mathew Hamilton and seconded by Richard Gardner, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on Article 3 which requests accepting Chapter 90 funds from the Commonwealth.

Upon motion made by Frederick Baughman and seconded by Richard Gardner, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on Article 4 which asks to expend \$59,057 to fund the latest KTEU contract.

Upon motion made by Maurice Simard and seconded by Richard Gardner, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on Article 5 which asks to expend \$14,487 to fund the latest Police Lieutenant's contract.

Upon motion made by Richard Gardner and seconded by Mathew Hamilton, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on expending \$15,000 for fire extraction equipment as requested in Article 6.

Upon motion made by Richard Gardner and seconded by Mathew Hamilton, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on expending \$25,620 from insurance proceeds for a 4-wheel drive truck as requested in Article 6.

Upon motion made by Richard Gardner and seconded by Frederick Baughman, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on appropriating \$22,500 for finger piers as requested in Article 6.

Upon motion made by Mathew Hamilton and seconded by Frederick Baughman, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on appropriating \$6,500 for ADA door construction as requested in Article 7.

Upon motion made by Maurice Simard and seconded by Mathew Hamilton, following discussion and a 4 to 0 to 1 vote, it was --

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on borrowing \$1.8 million, subject to a debt exclusion, for a senior center as requested in Article 8.

Upon motion made by Mathew Hamilton and seconded by Frederick Baughman, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on adding a new section to the general bylaws for the purpose of creating a Community Preservation Committee as requested in Article 9.

Upon motion made by Mathew Hamilton and seconded by Frederick Baughman, following discussion and a 4 to 0 to 1 vote, it was --

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on adding \$156,308.75 to the Stabilization Fund as requested in Article 10.

Richard Gardner abstained from voting on the motion; all others present and voting supported it.

Upon motion made by Mathew Hamilton and seconded by Frederick Baughman, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on petitioning the General Court for special legislation pertaining to the sewer department as requested in Article 11.

A recommendation on Article 12 requesting to disband the Town Hall Building Committee was deferred until town meeting.

Upon motion made by Frederick Baughman and seconded by Mathew Hamilton, following discussion and a 4 to 0 to 1 vote, it was --

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on funding a new position of food inspector in the amount of \$3,926 as requested in Article 13.

Upon motion made by Richard Gardner and seconded by Frederick Baughman, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on amending the section on fines in the General Bylaws as requested in Article 14.

A recommendation on Article 15 requesting to amend the Wetland Protection Bylaw was deferred until town meeting.

Upon motion made by Frederick Baughman and seconded by Maurice Simard, following discussion and a 4 to 0 to 1 vote, it was --

VOTED: To recommend favorable action on transferring \$2500 for the purpose of complying with state and federal environmental requirements as requested in Article 16.

Richard Gardner abstained from voting on the motion; all others present and voting supported it.

It was noted that the Committee previously voted favorable action on Article 17.

Upon motion made by Frederick Baughman and seconded by Maurice Simard, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend unfavorable action on appropriating \$105,000 for fire overtime as requested in petitioned Article 18.

Upon motion made by Mathew Hamilton and seconded by Frederick Baughman, following discussion, it was unanimously--

VOTED: To recommend favorable action for a change in zoning as requested in petitioned Article 19.

The Committee again signed a payment schedule for ATFC membership dues which had not been previously billed.

There being no further votes or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Miriam MacInnis, Secretary