



Town of Medway

FINANCE COMMITTEE

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Wednesday, October 23, 2019 – 7:00 PM
Sanford Hall, Town Hall
155 Village Street

Present: Frank Rossi, Chair; Todd Alessandri, Vice Chair; Jeff O' Neill, Michael Schrader, Sue Segarra, Will Lane, Kevin Dickie

Absent: Ellen Hillery, Clerk; Jim Sullivan

Staff Present: Michael Boynton, Town Administrator; Carol Pratt, Finance Director; David D'Amico, DPW Director; Stephanie Carlisle, Compliance Coordinator; Susy Affleck-Childs, Planning and Economic Development Coordinator.

Others Present: Dennis Crowley, Chair, Board of Selectmen; John Foresto, Selectman; Energy & Sustainability Committee: Carey Bergeron, Chair; Larry Ellsworth, Member; Kristen Rowe, Member.

Public Hearing - 2019 Fall Town Meeting Warrant Articles

At 7:00 PM Chairman Rossi declared that a quorum of seven members present.

Mr. Alessandri moved that the Finance Committee open a public hearing for the purpose of hearing public comment on the Fall Town Meeting Warrant Articles that are not otherwise reviewed by another government body; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.

Chairman Rossi asked if there were any members of the public present to discuss any of the Warrant Articles or offer input. There was no public comment.

At 7:02 PM Mr. Schrader moved that the public hearing be closed; Mr. Alessandri seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.

At 7:02 PM Chairman Rossi called the Finance Committee to order, noting that the quorum of seven members was still present.

Discussion/Review -- Fall Town Meeting Warrant Articles
Planning Board

Present: Susy Affleck-Childs, Planning and Economic Development Coordinator.

Ms. Affleck Childs reviewed proposed changes to Planning Board articles:

Article 8 – The proposed change to language in item F is based on advice of Town Counsel. It provides specificity on where that term is defined.

Article 9 – There is an additional sentence to clarify that the electric vehicle parking spaces are a subset of the full number of parking spaces required by Site Plan Review.

Article 10 – no changes.

Article 11 – For outdoor storage in industrial areas, the language in No. 5 has been adjusted in terms of height of outdoor storage. Ms. Affleck-Childs noted that the whole section is new so it was not bolded. Chairman Rossi pointed out that, in order to be consistent with other changes, it should be bolded to indicate it is new text. It was noted that height of outdoor storage shall not exceed 12 feet; higher than 12 feet will require a Special Permit from the Planning Board. Brief discussion followed on temporary use of cargo containers during construction.

Article 7 – Multi-Family Housing – This article is still TBD from the Board of Selectmen. It was noted that they held off with a recommendation until the public hearing took place. Ms. Affleck-Childs reported there were no substantive public comments at the hearing. The Board of Selectmen will vote on it on Monday night.

Energy and Sustainability Committee

Present: Carey Bergeron, Chair; Larry Ellsworth, Kristen Rowe, Members; David D'Amico, DPW Director.

Ms. Bergeron explained that they used to be the Energy Committee looking at solar, reducing energy consumption, becoming a Green Community, etc. She added that they are more of an advisory committee and often sit in on other meetings to offer guidance on energy-related issues. Last year the committee expanded its efforts to include water conservation and other initiatives, and petitioned for a change to become the Energy and Sustainability Committee. They were present this evening to discuss Article 5, the Plastic Bag Reduction Bylaw.

Mr. Ellsworth reported that 122 Massachusetts communities have voted to prohibit the single-use thin-film bags due to their causing unsightly messes, ingestion by wildlife, and problems with getting caught in equipment when included in trash. He stated further that the community can benefit from reducing the hazards and encouraging use of reusable bags of either plastic or cloth. As other communities are already using something different, the large chain stores should transition easily. Ms. Bergeron added that some of the communities include Ashland, Attleboro, Framingham, Dover, Natick, Northborough, and Sudbury, to name a few. Mr. Ellsworth stated that the committee felt it prudent to move forward on a local basis instead of waiting for the state law to become effective. Some states have adopted

legislation banning them on a state-wide basis, as have other countries. He spoke briefly about the components of the ban helping retailers transition, giving them time to use current inventory. The Board of Health will be actively involved.

Chairman Rossi asked about the language of the article. Mr. Ellsworth responded that this version is modeled on the Ashland Bylaw; the committee did not write it. Brief discussion followed on enforcement officers which could be police or other authority responding to a complaint. So far no businesses have come forward seeking information.

Mr. David D'Amico, DPW Director, stated if these bags are in the trash collection or recycling bins, the equipment at the processing plant catches the bags and jams up the belts. The processing line has to be shut down in order to free them up.

Brief discussion followed on resident notification, types of acceptable bags, Board of Health already visiting retailers with information, and a public relations campaign. It was noted that the small business owner with a single shop will need to get on board.

Responding to a question from Mr. Schrader, Mr. Ellsworth stated that paper bags with plastic lining cannot be recycled. In addition to concerns about definitions, Mr. Schrader expressed concern about the language around charging a fee for a bag which can be retained by the retailer. Discussion followed. It was reiterated that this language was based on documents from other communities. It was noted that if this passes, it becomes a bylaw and bylaws can always be amended. It also has to be approved by the Attorney General.

Selectman Crowley asked if there can be a requirement that paper bags have handles as older people will have difficulty carrying bags without handles.

Stormwater Compliance

Present: David D'Amico, DPW Director; Stephanie Carlisle, Compliance Coordinator

Ms. Carlisle noted she has been in Medway with the DPW for almost two years, and works with stormwater-related issues, energy compliance, recycling compliance, and other related tasks such as grant writing. She is also the staff DPW representative on for the Energy and Sustainability Committee.

At this time, she provided the background on Article 6. She mentioned that Town officials have been looking at the bylaw in greater detail since the new MS4 permit was issued, discussing how we can enforce the bylaw as it currently exists, specifically, discharges and land disturbance. Clarifying language was added. She briefly reviewed components of the MS4 permit and its association with the DEP and EPA. As Medway is part of the Charles River Watershed, we are required to meet several water quality standards; stormwater runoff is a huge contributor to the challenge of meeting those standards. The five-year permit became effective July 1, 2018.

Mr. D'Amico added that they were provided with a model article, and it was adapted for Medway. Mr. Boynton added that it is problematic when a business entity or a residence discharges the runoff into the water mains, and we have to figure out how to treat it within the parameters of the permit. The Town is liable for non-compliance. We are already doing some of the necessary tasks. The purpose of the article is to keep us moving on the right track. Brief discussion followed.

Concern was expressed that there could be pushback at Town Meeting because of the restrictions and associated impacts. Mr. D'Amico confirmed that he is aware of a number of unauthorized connections.

VOTE ON WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 1 – Unpaid Bills -- **Mr. O'Neill made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend Article 1 as presented; Mr. Alessandri seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.**

Article 2 – Rescind Borrowing – **Mr. O'Neill made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend Article 2 as presented; Mr. Alessandri seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.**

Article 3 – Transfer from Parks Revolving - **Mr. Alessandri made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend Article 3 as presented; Ms. Segarra seconded. It was noted that the Parks Commission and DPW may use remaining funds in the revolving fund to support ongoing programs and related expenses. Brief discussion followed. VOTE: 7-0-0.**

Article 4 – This has been approved by the Board of Selectmen as well as the Community Preservation Committee. Selectman Crowley asked about approval on the \$10,000 for expenses; is there time before Town Meeting? Mr. Boynton responded that it can be included in the motion. Brief discussion followed during which Ms. Pratt provided a brief overview of the project. **Mr. Alessandri made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend Article 4 as presented; Mr. Dickie seconded. No further discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.**

Article 5 – Plastic Bag Reduction Bylaw – **Mr. Alessandri made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend Article 5 as presented; Mr. Lane seconded. No further discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.**

Article 6 – Stormwater Bylaw – **Mr. Schrader made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend Article 6 as presented; Ms. Segarra seconded. No further discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.**

Article 7 – Multi-Family Housing – **Mr. Dickie made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend Article 7 as presented; Mr. Lane seconded. No further discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.**

Article 8 – Site Plan Review – **Mr. Schrader made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend Article 8 as presented; Mr. Alessandri seconded. No further discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.**

Article 9 – Electric Vehicle Parking Space Bylaw – **Mr. Lane made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend Article 9 as presented; Mr. Alessandri seconded. No further discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.**

Article 10 – Special Permits and Site Plans – **Ms. Segarra made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend Article 10 as presented; Mr. Schrader seconded. No further discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.**

Article 11 – Outdoor Storage for Industrial Use – After discussion, it was decided that the Finance committee would vote its recommendation before the Board of Selectmen votes on it. **Mr. Alessandri made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend Article 11 as presented; Mr. Dickie seconded. No further discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.**

Article 12 -- Oak Grove – **Mr. Schrader made a motion that the Finance Committee recommend Article 12 as presented; Mr. Dickie seconded. No further discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.** Brief discussion followed on the Oak Grove project.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Rossi stated that he was pretty sure the November 13 meeting would be cancelled. An email will go out to confirm as it gets closer to the date.

Due to Ms. Hillery's absence, there was no Clerk's Report. There were no liaison reports.

Approval of Minutes

Review of meeting minutes was postponed.

Miscellaneous:

Mr. Lane will be attending the Saturday workshop hosted by the Association of Town Finance Committees.

Mr. Alessandri reported on the details of the ETR relative to the School Committee and a balloon payment after a collective bargaining agreement was executed and ratified. The salary had been budgeted, but the costs associated with the health care were not. He added that the schools are now budgeting for this for future years.

If anyone has questions on their liaison assignments, please contact Chairman Rossi.

Adjourn:

At 8:33 PM Mr. Alessandri made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Dickie seconded. No discussion. VOTE: 7-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Galliardt