

DARTMOUTH FINANCE COMMITTEE

Warrant Article Recommendations

October 20th, 2009

DARTMOUTH FINANCE COMMITTEE

Peter Friedman
Chairman

Gregory Lynam
Vice-Chairman

Stephen Mitchell Jr.
Clerk

Shannon Jenkins
Asst. Clerk

David Ferreira

Jason Wentworth

Patrick Roth

Mary Louise Nunes

Tenney Lantz

ARTICLE 1: PRIOR YEAR INVOICES

R – 8-0-0

Recommend: prior year invoices for medical and copier expenses.

ARTICLE 2: LINE ITEM TRANSFER / SUPPLEMENT TO SCHEDULE A FY/2010

R – 8-0-0

Recommend: library expense as a result of impact bargaining as well as elimination of school transportation fees.

ARTICLE 3: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT – MA AUDUBON SOCIETY STONE BARN PRESERVATION / RESTORATION PROJECT – 786 HORESENECK ROAD – DEVELOPMENT OF PLANS

R – 7-0-1

Recommend: money would be used to study the most effective use of this historic site and develop architectural and engineering plans. Future investment would be required for preservation and repairs.

ARTICLE 4: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT – THE DARTMOUTH WATERWAYS PUBLIC ACCESS PROJECT AT CLARK'S COVE

R – 7-0-1

Recommend: final cost to complete project to allow access to Clark's Cove.

ARTICLE 5: GENERAL BY-LAW – ADDING OF NEW SECTION – FLAGS, SECTION 1

DNR 6-3-0

Do Not Recommend: This symbolic and protectionist article would have little financial impact on our town.

Minority Opinion – (Mary Louise Nunes, David Ferreira, Patrick Roth) The Treasurer's office has informed us that our flags – purchased in conjunction with the City of New Bedford – are Made in the USA. In addition, MGL Chapter 71 Section 69 already requires that flags be displayed in every classroom in Dartmouth and that the flag be "...manufactured in the United States". This should not be an additional burden to the department to receive continued assurance from New Bedford that the purchases conform with the USA standard. We are a daughter of a veteran, a former member of the US Army Reserves, and a veteran of our Armed Services. We feel we should show our support – in even small ways – for the current members of our Armed Forces and our veterans for their service to our country.

**ARTICLE 6: ACCEPTANCE OF CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING
COMMITTEE REPORT AND FUNDING FY/2010 CAPITAL PLAN**

R – 7-0-0

Recommend: numerous capital improvement projects delayed from last fall and spring are included on this current year capital improvement budget.

**ARTICLE 7: APPROPRIATION TO STABILIZATION FUND –
CHAPTER 40C Sec. 58**

R – 7-0-1

Recommend: in accordance with the town's planned objective of building the stabilization fund to 10% of the annual operating budget within five years, we are investing \$1,100,000 in the stabilization fund. In addition, \$630,000 is set aside as a contingency for potential reductions in state aid (as the town experienced in FY09), and \$225,000 is set aside for start up costs associated with full day kindergarten, currently under consideration.

ARTICLE 8: BUDGET: SUPPLEMENTS FY/ 2010

R – 7-0-0

Recommend: appropriates the money from meals and hotel taxes adopted by the summer special town meeting. The article makes minor adjustments to several line items and establishes a line item to cover operating expenses of the full day kindergarten program currently under consideration. There is also a one-time appropriation for the special U.S. Senate elections and a small allocation for permitting costs for the potential wind turbine investment.

**ARTICLE 9: BUDGET SUPPLEMENT FY/ 2010 WATERWAYS
MANAGEMENT ENTERPRISE FUND**

R – 8-0-0

Recommend: money will cover the cost of the land acquisition approved by the summer special town meeting as well as various capital improvement and overhead costs. The money will be transferred from the retained earnings account of the waterways management enterprise fund.

ARTICLE 10: STREET ACCEPTANCE – BLOSSOM COURT

RFF – 8-0-0

ARTICLE 11: STREET ACCEPTANCE – MASTHEAD LANE

RFF – 8-0-0

**ARTICLE 12: ZONING BY-LAWS – AMENDMENT TO SECTION 2 &
SECTION 19 – FLOODPLAIN DISTRICT BOUNDRIES & DESIGN
STANDARDS & ACCEPTENCE OF REVISED “FEMA FLOOD HAZARD
ZONING MAPS**

R – 8-0-0

Recommend: this zoning by-law change brings the town by-laws into conformance with the new FEMA floodplain maps as mandated by the federal government.

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