

May 5, 2017

Finance Committee meeting prior to Town Meeting held on Monday, May 5, 2017 beginning at 6:55 p.m. in the cafeteria at Ludlow High School.

Members present: Maureen Downing, Chairman, Heidi Fogg, Joan Cavallo, Susanne Boyea, Richard Moskal, Eric Gregoire, Raymond Yando and Beverly Tokarz. Ms. Kim Collins was also present

Annual Town Meeting

Article 22 and Article 32: The Board of Selectmen agreed to postpone both Articles. Ms. Downing would like to entertain a motion to concur with the both Articles.

Moved by Mr. Gregoire, seconded by Ms. Boyea to concur with postponement of Articles 22 and 32

Vote: 8-0 in favor

Article 33: \$100,000 from Free Cash from the Reserve Fund. The committee voted on that Article to approve

Article 34: The Selectmen voted to place approximately \$762,710.01 into the Stabilization Fund.

Moved by Mr. Gregoire, seconded by Ms. Boyea to concur with the Board of Selectmen's vote.
Vote: 8-0 in favor

Article 35 and 36: The Board of Selectmen voted to postpone those Articles

Moved by Mr. Yando, seconded by Ms. Fogg to concur with the postponement of Articles 35 and 36

Vote: 8-0 in favor

Ms. Downing said that it is her understanding that the LATOS Articles in the Special Town Meeting will either be withdrawn or postponed. When that time comes the committee gave Ms. Downing permission to concur with the vote

Article 17: Mr. Santos and Mr. Linton met with the committee to continue discussion re: The First Meetinghouse Article. Mr. Santos produced the new preliminary plans showing the first floor, elevator, second floor, wheel chair lift etc. The plans were not stamped and he did not get them to Mr. Larivee. Ms. Downing explained to Ms. Villano that the committee has always supported the First Meetinghouse. The new amount of money for the Article is \$176,000 which is the 50/50 split. Mr. Santos said that with this money the project will be entirely completed. The time frame is not known. The grant has just been applied for. Mr. Santos said that there is no guarantee that the DPW will receive the grant. If approved and the Town didn't receive the matching grant, the project will go forward using the funds from the Town Meeting. The DPW will absorb the cost for the plans for \$10-20,000 not \$32,000. Mr. Gregoire said that a significant amount of money has been used already, he is inclined to support it. Ms. Fogg said that the longer the house sits with no activity because there is no money the more problems they are going to have. Ms. Boyea said there is no benefit from the Meetinghouse at this time. There won't be any

benefit from it until it gets finished. Ms. Fogg supports the Article to finish the project. Mr. Santos explained what needs to be done for climate control so the building will not deteriorate. Ms. Cavallo asked who will determine, if the Town doesn't receive the Grant, what's going to be done. Ms. Collins said that if it's being approved as a 50/50 Grant then its contingent upon the Grant.

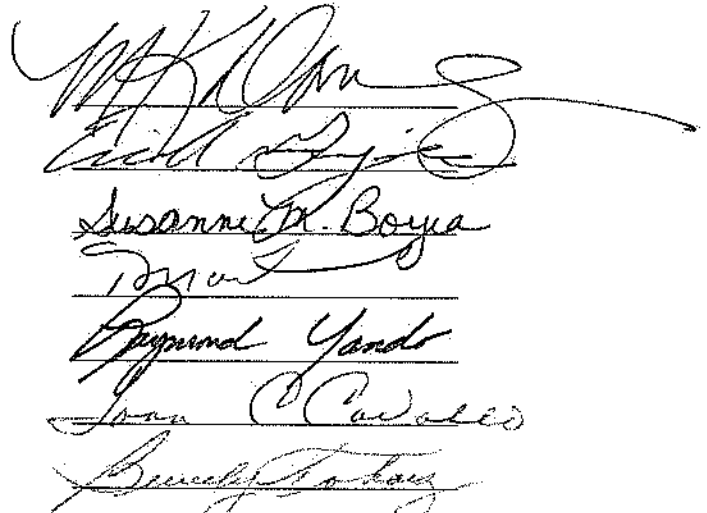
Moved by Mr. Gregoire, seconded by Ms. Boyea to approve Article 17
Vote: 8-0 in favor

Ms. Downing has new information on Article 27 which is the Zone Change in regard to Chapin Street for a Limousine Business. It was her understanding and the Planning Board approved it 4-0 that they were going to keep all the vehicles on that property. She has now learned that the owners are not. There are only going to be 3 vehicles, the remaining vehicles are going to be housed at the drivers location. Her biggest concern was traffic, so with more than half the vehicles not being housed in that area, she asked if the committee would like to reconsider their vote. Ms. Cavallo said that her vote was not based on the vehicles, it was based on spot zoning. It's a residential area and that parcel would be zoned differently. Mr. Gregoire agrees with Ms. Cavallo. Mr. Yando said that it's the Planning Board's jurisdiction, but he will support the Finance Committee. Ms. Downing is going to support the Planning Board because of the information that was received. Ms. Boyea feels that the owners could change and park more vehicles on the lot a year from now. If there was something to protect that comment, it would be different, but there isn't. The vote will stay.

Ms. Downing said that if the precinct members on the committee would like to speak as a citizen or a precinct member on Articles that are in opposition of what the Finance Committee voted, she asked if the member could leave the stage and speak on the floor.

Moved by Ms. Boyea, seconded by Ms. Cavallo to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Vote: 8-0 in favor



Ludlow Finance Committee