

**Topsfield Finance Committee
Minutes to the Meetings
March 31, 2011**

I. **Call to Order:** Mark Lyons, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Heidi Bond, Paul Dierze, Karen Dow, Kathy Hartmann, and Holger Luther present. Town Administrator Virginia Wilder, Chairman of the Board of Selectman Richard Gandt and Water Superintendent Greg Krom were also present. Superintendent Krom left the meeting at 8:15 p.m. Town Administrator Virginia Wilder and Selectmen Richard Gandt left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

II. **Minutes:** Outstanding minutes will be voted on at the next meeting.

III. **Reserve Fund Transfer Request:** A motion was made by Holger Luther, seconded by Karen Dow to approve the transfer of \$60,000 from the FY2011 Water Enterprise Unanticipated Emergency Fund to the Other-System Maintenance Emergency Account, voted in favor 6-0.

IV. **Department Budgets Approval:** The Committee viewed an updated Warrant Appendix A. A motion was made by Holger Luther to approve department budgets as detailed in Attachment A and to supersede any previous votes, seconded by Karen Dow, voted in favor 6-0.

V. **Town Meeting Warrant Article Recommendations:** In a series of motions, the Finance Committee voted actions on the following Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles as numbered in the attached draft warrant:

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Reserve Fund, Article Second, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on General Operating Budget, Article Third, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Water Department Operating Budget, Article Fourth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Heidi Bond, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Masconomet Regional School District Assessment, Article Fifth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on North Shore Vocational School District Assessment, Article Sixth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District Assessment, Article Seventh, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Lease of Emerson Field, Article Eighth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Grant Authorization for Town Projects, Article Ninth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Massachusetts Department of Transportation Contracts, Article Tenth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Park Revolving Fund, Article Eleventh, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Cemetery Revolving Fund, Article Twelfth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Paul Dierze, seconded by Heidi Bond, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Conservation Commission Revolving Fund, Article Thirteenth, voted in favor 5-0-1 with Holger Luther abstaining.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Annual Engineering and Landfill Monitoring, Article Fourteenth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Kathy Hartmann, seconded by Karen Dow, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Fiscal Year 2012 Additional Real Estate Exemption, Article Fifteenth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Kathy Hartmann, seconded by Karen Dow, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Local Option to Increase Gross Receipts Eligibility for Seniors, Article Sixteenth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Kathy Hartmann, seconded by Karen Dow, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Local Option to Decrease Interest Rate on Deferred Taxes of Seniors, Article Seventeenth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Home Rule Petition-Health Insurance Plan Design, Article Eighteenth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Fund Town Employee Employment Separation, Article Nineteenth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Rescind Authorization to Borrow, Article Twentieth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Kathy Hartmann, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Tri-Town Council on Youth and Family Services, Article Twenty-First, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Masconomet Regional School Committee Representation, Article Twenty-Second, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Central Street Water Main Project, Article Twenty-Third, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Purchase of Police Cruiser, Article Twenty-Fourth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Purchase of Highway Dump/Plow/Sander/Wing Truck, Article Twenty-Fifth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Stretch Energy Code Bylaw, Article Twenty-Sixth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Amend Zoning Bylaw, Article I, Definitions and Article III, Section 3.02 Table of Use Regulations, Article Twenty-Seventh voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Ground-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations, Article Twenty-Eighth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Amend Zoning Bylaw, Article III, Section 3.02 Table of Use Regulations, Article Twenty-Ninth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Amend Zoning Bylaw, Article II, Section 2.08, Article Thirtieth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends no action on Citizen Petition-Change the Date of the Annual Town Meeting, Article Thirty-First, voted in favor 6-0.

Holger Luther inquired about the existence of a "Roadway As-Built Plan" for

Antoria Way and Selectman Gandt answered in the affirmative. By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Acceptance of Antoria Way, Article Thirty-Second, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Exchange of Land on Pheasant Lane, Article Thirty-Third, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Karen Dow, seconded by Holger Luther, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Acceptance of MGL Chapter 52, Section 9A-Nomination Papers, Article Thirty-Fourth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Stabilization Fund, Article Thirty-Fifth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Free Cash, Article Thirty-Sixth, voted in favor 6-0.

VI. Special Town Meeting Warrant Article Recommendations: In a series of motions, the Finance Committee voted actions on the following Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles as numbered in the attached draft warrant:

By motion of Kathy Hartmann, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Non-Resident or Foster Care Student Tuition Revolving Account, Article Fourth, voted in favor 6-0.

By motion of Holger Luther, seconded by Paul Dierze, the Finance Committee recommends positive action on Town Hall Boiler Replacement, Article Fifth, voted in favor 6-0.

VII. Finance Committee Letter: The Committee reviewed and edited the draft Finance Committee letter. A motion was made by Paul Dierze to approve the edited letter, seconded by Holger Luther, voted in favor 6-0.

VIII. Upcoming Meeting Schedule: The next meeting of the Finance Committee will occur on April 11, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Proctor School Teacher's Lounge

IX. Adjourn: A motion was made by Holger Luther to adjourn at 8:50 p.m., seconded by Karen Dow, voted in favor 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Erica Clay