

**Provincetown Finance Committee Minutes**  
**October 23, 2015, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Judge Welsh Room, Provincetown Town Hall**

**Members Present:** Mike Canizales (remote), Mark Hatch, Stan Sikorski, Duane Steele, Scott Valentino, Louise Vendon and Clarence Walker

**Excused Absent:** none

**Others Present:** Town Moderator Mary Jo Avellar, Assistant Town Manager David Gardner, Finance Director Dan Hoort

Meeting called to order at 10:05 a.m. Meeting was chaired by Vice Chair Mark Hatch

The Committee began the review of article 10.

**Mike Canizales moved the following motion:**

**I move that the committee endorse the following unanimous majority report for Article 10:**

**“The committee does not recommend. The Committee applauds the new Town Manager for attempting to bring consensus and closure to this issue. We feel strongly that the best way to achieve this is for one or more joint meetings of the BOS, Fincom and Building Committee in January and February of 2016. The subject would be whether to pursue a new build strategy in the \$9-12M range or a rehab strategy of existing facility not to exceed \$4.9M.**

**Let’s let the committee debate this and let’s couple it with a direct mail piece to all non-resident homeowners, business owners, and residents to occur in March. Finally, we can bring the question up at Spring Town meeting and on Spring Election Ballot for an advisory vote.**

**This process would maximize feedback on the truly pivotal issue of cost/benefit and bring us back out of the proverbial weeds.”**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by Clarence Walker.**

Stan agreed with the motion.

Duane said the community doesn’t have the political will on the police station.

Clarence agreed with the motion and Duane, but felt we owe it to the new Town Manager to follow his recommendation so we can ‘put it to bed’.

Louise agreed with Clarence that we need to provide this resource to our new Town Manager, the Town is confused as to the options.

Stan said putting a price range is premature, it should be more of a concept.

Clarence said we need to give the largest possible body the chance to weigh in on this.

Mark said all of the committees don’t agree with each other, it’s premature to vote this money. He is in favor of indefinitely postponing article 10.

Mike withdrew his motion.

**Duane moved the Finance Committee not recommend article 10. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike.**

The motion did not pass by a vote of 3-3-1 (No- LV, SV, MH) (Abstain-SS)

**Clarence moved to reconsider the recommendation on article 10. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Duane**

The motion passed 4-3-0 (MC, LV, SV)

Scott recounted Mr. Panagore's description of the need for article 10.

Louise wants to give Mr. Panagore a chance to get answers.

Duane mentioned the \$200,000 already given to rehab the current station.

Clarence said the \$39,000 is not for the Building Committee, but to pay an entity to congeal and aggregate the design requests.

Mike said that we have spent large sums of money on designs, but the fundamental issue is we don't have a consensus on moving forward. This is not an emergency for fall town meeting.

**Mike moved the Finance Committee not recommend article 10. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Duane**

The motion to not recommend passed by a vote of 4-3-0 (LV, MH, SV)

The Committee began discussion of article 11.

Mike suggested it be indefinitely postponed.

Clarence felt article 11 was well intentioned, but we need more time.

Mark said there will be a rush to condo conversions.

Stan said the proposal does not address the shortage of housing, but punishes property owners. He felt it was poorly thought out.

Duane said it was the worst idea he has seen.

Mary Jo Avellar made a public statement and said we may see people evicting tenants and going for the big dollar summer rentals. We don't know the need. People who have already invested and are living in other outer Cape towns are not going to come back and live in Provincetown. It punishes people who have held out and forces out more year-rounders. The hardship section hasn't been worked out, but will debut on town meeting floor.

Mark said the article is well intentioned, but escapes the fundamentals. The summer economy is unrelated to the year-round economy and this bylaw will not change that. The only way to change it is to alter the imbalance between summer rental income and year-round rental income.

Stan said we want to not hurt one, but stimulate the other.

Louise said there are other tools including the condo rental tax. The other part is there are unintended consequences. We need to step back.

**Clarence moved the Finance Committee not recommend article 11. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Duane**

The motion to not recommend passed by a vote of 7-0-0

**Duane moved the Finance Committee not recommend article 12. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Clarence**

The motion to not recommend passed by a vote of 7-0-0

The Committee began discussion of article 16.

Town Moderator Avellar stated it is what we currently do, this article would formalize it.

Mark understands the reasoning, but doesn't want to limit free speech.

Scott said that if he knew he had only five minutes to speak he would be concise from the start.

**Mike moved the Finance recommend article 16. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Louise.**

The motion to recommend passed by a vote of 5-2-0 (DS, MH)

The Committee reviewed its other recommendations and made no changes to its previous recommendations.

Mike said we would send out script assignments to Committee members.

The next meeting of the Committee after town meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.

In closing statements Louise mentioned the efforts to refine social media policy and suggested the Committee should think of adopting a policy.

Clarence disagreed, if it is not broken we do not need to fix it.

Mark said he would be happy to add it as a future agenda item, but has concerns about free speech.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.