

Norwich Finance Committee

Approved Minutes of the Meeting of Jan 24, 2007

The meeting convened at 8:10 AM. Members present: Karen Kayen (chair), Al Converse, Henry Scheier, Cheryl Lindberg, and Paul Tierney. Irv Thomae joined the meeting about 8:30. Also present later: Stephen Soares, Alison May and Dennis Kaufman from the Town .

1. The motion to accept the draft minutes of the meeting of Dec 15, 2006 as corrected was made by Paul Tierney and seconded by Henry Scheier. Passed unanimously. The motion to accept the draft minutes of the meeting of Jan. 5, 2007 as was made by Cheryl Lindberg and seconded by Karen Kayen. Passed: 3 for and 2 abstaining.

2. Norwich Town Budget

**Henry Scheier moved and Cheryl Lindberg seconded: that we support the gross spending town budget of \$ 3,782,796. This passed with Karen, Al, Irv and Cheryl voting for the motion and Henry and Paul voting against.**

Those supporting the motion noted that the gross spending town budget less grants was \$3,662,796 which represented a 2.1% over the '07 budget, and that compared well with the CPI. They also noted that the Selectboard had increased the paving budget by \$ 47,000 and was willing to encumber any highway funds that may be left at the end of this year for paving. This was regarded as an acceptable response to our recent request that the paving budget be increased by \$ 90,000 with no increase in the overall budget.

Those opposed to the motion, while not objecting to the total amount, objected to the allocations, specifically they felt there was too much for the police and too little for the highway paving. They also objected to the shortfall of revenue in the solid waste and recreation budgets and suggested that the police charge for 'house checks'. Finally they noted that the \$47,000 increase in the paving budget did not equal the \$ 90,000 requested.

3. Capital budgeting meeting.

Henry requested that the Finance Committee be invited.

Adjourned at 10:20 AM.

Next meeting date: Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2007 at 8:15 A.M. in Tracy Hall

Respectfully submitted, Alvin O. Converse