

Minutes
Town of Lexington Appropriation Committee
March 30, 2009

Place and time: Ellen Stone Room, Cary Memorial Building, 6:30 PM

Members present: Alan Levine (Chair), John Bartenstein (Vice Chair), Richard Eurich, Pam Hoffman, Susan McLeish (Secretary), Eric Michelson, Glenn Parker, Mike Kennealy, and Rob Addelson (*ex officio*, non-voting)

Also present: Deborah Brown (Town Moderator), Patrick Mehr, David Kanter, Tom Griffiths, Ephraim Weiss, and Alan Lazarus

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 P.M.

1. **Article 43.** Patrick Mehr was present to discuss changes he had made to the motion for Article 43. The motion now essentially asks for the formation of a committee solely to obtain several pieces of information from a number of towns regarding their percentage contribution to employee health benefits and the rate of married employees' subscription to the town's health insurance. A short discussion ensued regarding the necessity for/benefits of having a committee, instead of the Town Manager's health insurance working group, collect this data. The Committee concluded that it was not ready to take a position and would request a caucus during Town Meeting when the article came up for a vote. (The Committee voted 4-4 on Article 43 when it came up during Town Meeting.)

2. **Appropriation Committee Report.** The committee voted 8-0 to approve the Appropriation Committee Report to the 2009 Annual Town Meeting released March 25, 2009.

3. **Article 5.** David Kanter briefly discussed the request now in Article 5 for \$50,000 to conduct a study of an automatic meter reading system. The Capital Expenditures Committee will recommend that a cost/benefit study of investing in such a system be undertaken before proceeding with the selection of a system. Rob Addelson responded that it was the intent to do that.

4. **Future Meetings.** Alan Levine will extend an invitation to Ed Grant to speak to the Committee at our meeting on Monday, April 6, 2009. Eric Michelson requested that Articles 11 and 12 be included on the agenda for a discussion and vote on Wednesday evening, April 1, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan McLeish
Approved July 6, 2009