

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
7:30PM TOWN HALL HEARING ROOM
4/25/11

ATTENDEES:

McGaffigan*	Bayer*	Jenkins	Phelps	Corredera
DeCoursey*	Connors*	Simmons*	Gibian	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan*	
Ferrara*	Franclemont	Jones*	Deshler*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning*	Carman*	Turkall*

* Indicates present

Minutes of 4/13 approved as corrected

MUNICIPAL HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM: Tosti reviewed the House bill that would allow Towns to move their employees to the GIC w/o union bargaining. The bill has provisions to protect employees from excessive costs. He urged members to contact our representatives and urge them to vote for the bill and against the amendment. He paraphrased a resolution Ref 1 that will be presented to Town Meeting. This resolution urges our legislators to support the Speaker's bill. After a brief discussion members VOTED unanimously to support the resolution.

Ref 1 Resolution Municipal Health Care Reform

COMMITTEE The FinCom Report was provided the Town Meeting on the first night thanks to Tosti, Turkall & Jones. Their efforts received a round of applause. Selectman LaCourt to address the FinCon on Wed at 7:30.

RESERVE FUND BALANCE: 528,409.26

Peter Howard 4/26/11

cc FinCom Members, Library File, Town Web Site



*Town of Arlington
Office of the Town Manager*

**Article 31
Resolution – Municipal Health Insurance Reform
April 25, 2011**

Whereas, the Town of Arlington’s operating budget is under great pressure from declining revenues and increases in fixed costs resulting in reductions to important services; and

Whereas, one of the major fixed cost increases that the Town of Arlington faces on an annual basis is the employee group health insurance account which represented \$6.6 million (10%) of the fiscal year 2000 budget, and has risen to represent \$18.3 million (16.1%) of the proposed fiscal year 2012 budget; and

Whereas, without significant legislative reform, these costs have and will continue to reduce the amount of services that Arlington is able to deliver to its taxpayers; and

Whereas, the Town is committed to providing quality health care plans to its employees at a cost that is fair and reasonable to both the employees and taxpayers; and

Whereas, the Fiscal Year 2012 House Ways and Means budget has included reform legislation that would allow municipalities to either enter the Group Insurance Commission (GIC) or implement plan design changes similar to those currently offered by the GIC; and

Whereas, the reform legislation would enable municipalities to modernize the design of their employee health plans outside of collective bargaining, with a guarantee that all municipal and school employees would still have health plans that are the same as or better than what state employees receive; and

Whereas, the Town Meeting supports the implementation of Health Reimbursement Arrangements as part of any reform legislation;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that:

Town Meeting urges in the strongest terms that Arlington’s state legislative delegation support the Speaker’s proposed reform, in order to facilitate the Town’s ability to opt into the State’s Group Insurance Commission or implement plan design changes to the Town’s current menu of health insurance options that achieves cost savings similar to that of the Group Insurance Commission, and that such reform be coupled with a provision to allow the establishment of Health Reimbursement Arrangements.

Finance Committee