

Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes
June 24, 2020
7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Christi Andersen, Roland Bourdon, Jason Cole, Mike Majors, Alan Nolde, Sahana Purohit, Dave Wellinghoff

Absent: Al Vlajinac (Associate)

1. Opening

Chair Roland Bourdon called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Finance Committee Members and audience attended the meeting remotely through Zoom.us virtual meeting platform. The meeting was recorded through Zoom and also by ActonTV.

2. FY2021 Budget and Warrant Articles

The FinCom confirmed and re-assigned the Annual Town Meeting warrant articles. Dave W. wanted to review the debate that took place regarding Article 10 Real Property Disposition – 3 School Street so that he could be prepared to speak to it if it happens to come up at town meeting even though it was recommend. Jason C. – The concern was we were given the BoS carte-blanche to dispose of the property not knowing what the new intended use might be nor the dollar amount we are receiving and what financial impacts it has on the town. John M. Good news regarding Article 9. In the Warrant - Fund Collective Bargaining Agreement. Happy to announce we have a 3yr settlement for the Fire Union of which we need to bring the first year to Town meeting for approval. We will be asking the citizens to approve this article that has a cost of \$57,500.

Christi A. – Motion to recommend Article 9. Fund collective Bargaining Agreement. Seconded by Sahana P. Roll Call: Christi Andersen - Aye, Roland Bourdon - Aye, Jason Cole - Aye, Mike Majors - Aye, Sahana Purohit - Aye, Dave Wellinghoff – Aye, Adam Nolde –Aye, Christine Russell –Aye.

3. Town Meeting Logistics

There will be two setting arrangements – one inside and one outside. Some members may choose to sit outside while others may choose to sit indoors. The concern would be if there's an amendment on an article ...how would you huddle and make a decision if you were inside and outside? You could possibly connect by phone or some other means. Some members were not comfortable sitting inside so it was suggested that everyone sit outside but there's a threat of potential rain. It might be best to use cell phones on speaker phone or collectively meet practicing social distancing then go back to your seating choice. The idea of bring pop-up canopies was discussed as a potential option for sitting outdoors if rain was a threat. I think we should have a place holder meeting just before the night of town meeting just in case.

4. Finance Department Update

Steve B. - We would like to thank Mike M. for his service award to the Town of Acton. Second – The department of revenue has approved our submission of a 1/12th budget. We hope we don't need it but it's our Plan B back-up. I also sent you a copy of an approval from the state to deficit spend up to \$750k for COVID-19 related expenses. This approval provides us protection from taking a hit in our Free Cash calculation as normal accounting rules apply. We applied for FEMA and CARES Act grant relief which will cover those deficits.

5. Town Manager and Board of Selectmen COVID-19 Pandemic Updates

Nothing new to report

7. Finance Committee Business

Nothing additional to report

Next meeting scheduled for June 29, 2020 at 5:30pm.

8. Adjournment

At 8:48pm, a motion was made by Member Dave Wellinghoff and seconded by Christine R. Roll Call: Christi Andersen - Aye, Roland Bourdon - Aye, Jason Cole - Aye, Mike Majors - Aye, Sahana Purohit - Aye, Dave Wellinghoff – Aye. Adam Nolde -Aye

The meeting was adjourned by majority vote.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

2020 Town Meeting Warrant

DoR approval Letter 1/12th budget

DoR approval letter to deficit spend

Respectfully submitted,

Finance Committee