

Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2021
8:00 PM

Present: Christine Russell (Chair), Adam Nolde (Vice Chair), Roland Bourdon, Mike Majors, Jason Cole (remote), Christi Andersen, Steve Noone, and Esha Gangolli (remote)

Mrs. Russell called the meeting to order.

1. Capital Improvement Plan (Joint meeting with Select Board)

Presentation of the Town Manager's FY23-32 Capital Plan (Joint Meeting with the Finance Committee) The Finance Committee moved and seconded to enter into the Select Board meeting. Mr. Mangiaratti presented his proposed FY23-32 Capital Improvement Plan. Mr. Mangiaratti noted that in the past five years, the town has invested over 4.5% of the total budget in Capital projects in 2018, it increased in 2021 due to construction of the new fire station, the construction of the twin school, and the debt override for the Minuteman High School. The total Free Cash projects recommended budget is \$637,000, and the total recommended General Fund debt projects budget is November 15, 2021 Select Board \$2,685,000 with an estimated FY23 debt service cost of \$410,029. Members of the Finance Committee asked several questions including plans for renovations for the existing fire stations, to consider leasing laptops as opposed to purchasing for the Police Department, concerns about software upkeep for the regional emergency communication center in the next 10 years, if the new Infrastructure Bill would have funds to consider utilizing the availability to fund some of the larger general fund debt projects, if the Capital Improvement Plan will be part of the Acton Leadership Group plan, if the Town Manager would provide information if certain funding (from federal grants) will be assigned to some of the larger projects, provide the Finance Committee a scorecard of where projects are in terms of completion in the future, and questions about the total cost from the capital study conducted in 2015, question about implementing a bicycle plan alongside a sidewalk plan. Mr. Mangiaratti explained that the previous Capital Plans only involved buildings, where the current CIP includes future studies. The full presentation is available in the Extra Information folder for the November 15, 2021 meeting. Charlie Kadlec, Paul Revere Road – asked if any existing projects are included on the current debt override and if any debt override is planned, how it would impact the taxpayer. Terra, West Acton – questioned what the total is on the spreadsheet for the long-term capital plan. Mr. Mangiaratti answered to \$78.6 million, and questioned if the

Town Manager was planning for needs as the population increases such as land purchases, and the need for more schools. Janet Adachi, Simon Hapgood Lane – congratulates the Town Manager on the Capital Plan proposal and allowing for more public comment. The Town Manager agreed to answer additional questions that might come in by email, including additional questions from the Finance Committee that would be sent in by the Chair of the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee moved, seconded and voted to exit this portion of the Select Board meeting.

Mr. Bourdon moved to adjourn. Mr. Nolde seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting

- Presentation of the Town Manager's FY23-32 Capital Plan