

MINUTES
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Meeting: March 16, 2022

Present: Jerry Cerasale, Chair; Steve Cole, Vice-Chair; Mary Shaw, Clerk; Roy Merolli; George Deptula; Tom Gardner; Peter Wade; Russ French; Jacqui Beebe, Town Administrator (arrived 5:47); Art Autorino, Select Board Representative; Rich Bienvenue, Assistant Town Administrator/Finance Director

Members Absent: Rick Knight

Invited Guests Present: Brooke Clenchy, Superintendent of Nauset Regional School District; Giovanna Venditti, Director of Finance and Operations; Chris Elsasser, Principal Nauset Regional High School; Keith Kenyon, Principal Nauset Regional Middle School; William Crosby, Principal Eastham Elementary School; Robin Millan, Director of Curriculum & Assessment for Nauset Regional School District; Chris Easley, Chair of the Nauset Regional School District School Committee; Judy Lindahl Chair of the Eastham School Committee; Tricia Aurigemma, Eastham Representative to the Nauset Regional School District School Committee.

Jerry Cerasale called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM. This is a remote meeting via Zoom.

- **Approval of Minutes**
 - No action taken.

- **Discussion of Town Budget for Education (Eastham Elementary, Nauset Regional Schools, Cape Cod Tech); Budget Recap.**
 - Finance Committee and school representatives introduced themselves.
 - Brooke Clenchy provided an overview of budgetary challenges and process.
 - William Crosby provided an overview of the Eastham Elementary School budget, enrollments and programs.
 - Jerry Cerasale inquired about how the school approaches fluctuating class sizes with a minimal number of teachers.
 - Some discussion regarding number of students via School Choice.
 - Giovanna Venditti provided an overview of Middle School and High School budgets, enrollments, and programs.
 - George Deptula inquired, and discussion, as to the impact of recent inflation on the District budget.
 - Mary Shaw inquired, and discussion, as to the status of the International Baccalaureate program and the impact of student leaving for Charter Schools.
 - Discussion on the enrollment and financial impacts of the School Choice Program.
 - District to provide a “School Choice Matrix” to the Town and provide for future discussions on the issue of School Choice.
 - Principals Kenyon and Elsasser addressed issues relative to their schools.
 - Cape Cod Regional Technical School District Budget was presented for consideration
 - Discussion on overall budget approach. Rich Bienvenue drafting summary and detail explanations of the budget and Article 2. Art Autorino drafting a Select Board Report to precede the warrant to explain their position and support of the proposed budget.

- **Discussion and votes on Town Warrant Articles**
 - No action taken.
 - Final Draft of Town Warrant, with explanations to be completed and included in upcoming Select Board meeting packet and will also be forwarded to the Finance Committee. Strategic Planning Committee will also provide commentary on some of the warrant article summaries.

- **Discussion on Finance Committee Letter for Town Warrant**
 - No action taken

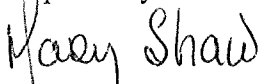
- **Discussion of Schedule to review and vote on remaining Town Warrant Articles**
 - Meet on March 23, 2022, to review articles, will determine if additional meetings are necessary. Jerry Cerasale will notice a Finance Committee meeting prior to Town Meeting in the event additional time is needed, or in the event something comes up.

- **Town Administrator Report**
 - Shana Brogan working on Rock Harbor dredge project and anticipate receiving a grant to fund 50% of project costs.
 - Jerry Cerasale inquired about the impact of inflation on the bonding of the Nauset Regional School Project. Jacqui Beebe and Rich Bienvenue updated the Committee as to the district's current borrowing plan.

- **New Business**
 - None

- **Adjourn** – Motion by Steve Cole, 2nd by Russ French. Roll call vote 8-0-0, passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Mary Shaw, Clerk

