

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting: March 22, 2023

Committee Members Present: Mary Shaw, Chair; Rick Knight; Roy Merolli (Remote Participation); Joanna Buffington; Tom Gardner (Remote Participation); Russ French; Peter Wade; Tom McNamara; Paul B Brown

Staff & Other representatives: Jacqui Beebe, Town Manager (Arrived 5:12); Rich Bienvenue, Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director

Members Absent: None

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm. This is an in-person meeting with remote participation via Zoom.

2. Overview, Review and Discussion on FY 2024 Budget

- Rich Bienvenue presented an update on the overall budget now that all Departmental Reviews have been completed. Committee discussion regarding budget impacts and changes over the years. Discussion regarding the receipt and timeliness of being presented information from the Elementary and Nauset School District.

3. Review of Draft Warrant

- Gary Senecal was present to discuss his petitioned article (article 9A). After the presentation there was a motion by Tom McNamara, seconded by Russ French to recommend approval of Article 9A to Town Meeting. Vote: Joanna Buffington and Peter Wade, vote YES; Mary Shaw, Rick Knight, Tom Gardner, Russ French, Tom McNamara, Paul Brown, vote NO; Roy Merolli, Abstained. Motion fails 2-6-1.
- The Committee began its review of the remainder of the Draft Town Meeting Warrant. Each article was considered separately, discussed and votes taken on each. Motions and votes on each article are as follows:
 - Motion by Rick Knight to recommend to Town Meeting *Article 2B. Water Enterprise Fund Operating Budget*, second by Tom McNamara. Vote: 9-0.
 - Motion by Rick Knight to recommend to Town Meeting *Article 2C. Approve & fund Collective Bargaining Agreements*, second by Russ French. Vote: 9-0.
 - Motion by Rick Knight to recommend to Town Meeting *Article 3B. Capital Budget*, second by Tom McNamara. Vote: 9-0.
 - Motion by Rick Knight to recommend to Town Meeting *Article 3C. Bond Authorization – Rock Harbor Dredging*, second by Russ French. Vote: 9-0.
 - Motion by Rick Knight to recommend to Town Meeting *3D. Bond Authorization – Wastewater Planning & Design*, second by Tom Gardner. Vote: 9-0.
 - Motion by Rick Knight to recommend to Town Meeting Article 4A. Other Appropriations, second by Russ French. Vote: 9-0.
 - Motion by Rick Knight to recommend to Town Meeting *Article 4B. Establish & Fund a Compensated Absence Reserve Fund*, second by Tom McNamara. Vote: 9-0.
 - Motion by Joanna Buffington to recommend to Town Meeting *Article 4C. Establish & Fund a Wastewater Capital Stabilization Fund*, second by Paul B Brown. Vote: 9-0.
 - Motion by Rick Knight to recommend to Town Meeting *Article 4D. Authorization of Lease Terms*, second by Joanna Buffington. Vote: 9-0.
 - Motion by Russ French to recommend to Town Meeting *Article 4E. Five Years Contracts*, second by Paul B. Brown. Vote: 9-0.
 - Motion by Rick Knight to recommend to Town Meeting *Article 5A. Location of Town Meeting If NRHS is not Available*, second by Tom McNamara. Vote: 9-0.
 - Motion by Rick Knight to recommend to Town Meeting *Article 5B. Authorize Town Clerk Office to be Closed Saturdays*, second by Joanna Buffington. Vote: 9-0.
 - Motion by Rick Knight to recommend to Town Meeting *Article 5C. Consolidate Board of Cemetary Commissioners & Historic Commission*, second by Joanna Buffington. Vote: 9-0.

- Motion by Rick Knight to recommend to Town Meeting *Article 6. Petition the General Court for Permanent Conservation Restriction*, second by Tom McNamara. Vote: 9-0.
- Discussion regarding Zoning articles 7A through 7H. Rick Knight made a motion to recommend to Town Meeting Articles 7A through 7H, seconded by Paul B. Brown. There was discussion regarding some of the elements of these Articles. Motion was withdrawn. Further information to be provided from Community Development Director.
- Motion by Paul B Brown to recommend to Town Meeting *Articles 7B – 7H Zoning Bylaws*, second by Rick Knight. Vote: 9-0.
- Consensus to defer action on the remainder of the warrant articles until March 29, 2023, meeting.

4. Old Business

- Mary Shaw inquired about the timing of Capital Project Committee appointments from the Finance Committee.

5. Town Manager Report and Staff Updates

- Printed Town Manager report was previously distributed by the Chair – no further update

6. New Business

- Agenda item deferred.

7. Adjourn

- Motion by Russ French to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Tom McNamara. Vote: 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.