



Town of Concord
Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes – Thursday, March 17, 2022
Public Hearing Room, Town House, 22 Monument Square, and via Zoom

Members present: Ray Andrews, Dean Banfield, Eric Dahlberg, Greg Guarriello, Mary Hartman, John Hickling, Amrith Kumar, Don Kupka, Dee Ortner, Parashar Patel, Christine Reynolds, Brian Taylor, Lois Wasoff

Others Present: Select Board Chair Terri Ackerman, Interim Town Manager Kerry Lafleur, Moderator Carmen Reiss, members of the public

Chair Reynolds requested to bring the meeting to order at 9:50 PM. Finance committee members agreed unanimously.

Review and vote: recommendations on 2022 Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Chair Reynolds invited further discussion on the articles that were covered during the preceding public hearing. With no further points of discussion raised, the Finance Committee proceeded to vote on the articles as follows:

MOTION made by Amrith Kumar to recommend affirmative action on all articles that were presented at the preceding public hearing (listed below for reference). Seconded by Brian Taylor. Motion carried unanimously.

- Article 45: Beede Swim & Fitness Center Enterprise Fund Expenditures
- Article 44: Authorize Expenditure from PEG Access & Cable-Related Fund
- Article 29: Annual Appropriation of Parking Meter Receipts
- Article 39: Light Plant Expenditures & Payment in Lieu of Taxes
- Article 40: Solid Waste Disposal Fund Expenditures
- Article 41: Sewer System Expenditures
- Article 42: Sewer Improvement Fund Expenditures
- Article 43: Water System Expenditures

Chair Reynolds summarized the Finance Committee's votes on all relevant articles for Town Meeting and noted that two remain pending:

- Article 24: Appropriate Funds for Affordable Housing Development. Select Board Chair Terri Ackerman acknowledged that the Select Board needs to have another discussion on this article. After brief discussion, the Finance Committee agreed to hold off on voting on this article.
- Article 25: Assabet River Bluff Preservation Project. After brief discussion, the Finance Committee agreed to hold off on voting on this article.

Chair Reynolds provided an update on the open questions that the Finance Committee had flagged at its previous meeting regarding the school committee budget. Town Moderator Carmin Reiss shared that the state does provide a mechanism that allows a school department to continue to operate in such a circumstance. Chair Reynolds also noted that the Finance Committee does have the ability to offer an amendment to the school budget article at Town Meeting. Parashar Patel noted that he plans to come to the next Finance Committee meeting, scheduled for April 24th, with amendment language for committee review and discussion.

Public Comment

No public comment offered

Adjourn

MOTION to adjourn made by Dee Ortner. Seconded by Dean Banfield. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Eric Dahlberg