



Town Of Webster

Massachusetts

Est. 1832

Finance Committee

350 Main Street
Webster, MA 01570

Sarah Sansom, Acting Chairman
Courtney Friedland, Recording Secretary

Laura Backus
Matt Fitton
Michael Finamore
Jennifer Findlay
Christopher Markiewicz

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 9, 2020

Webster Town Hall, 350 Main Street, Webster, MA
via conference call in accordance with Governor Baker's
emergency "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the
Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20
6:00 p.m.

The Finance Committee meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Sarah Sansom at 6:02 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room in the Town Hall

Present: Laura Backus, Matt Fitton (via conference call), Sarah Sansom (via conference call), and Michael Finamore (via conference call), Jennifer Findlay (via conference call), Christopher Markiewicz (via conference call), Joshua Sterczala (via conference call), Town Administrator Doug Willardson (via conference call), and Finance Committee Secretary Courtney Friedland (via conference call).

Governor Baker issued an Executive Order modifying certain requirements of the Open Meeting Law, to enable public bodies to carry out their responsibilities while adhering to public health recommendations regarding social distancing. The Executive Order relieves public bodies from the requirement in the Open Meeting Law that meetings be conducted in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body through adequate, alternative means.

Meeting Minutes

Motion by Matt Fitton, seconded by Michael Finamore, to approve the meeting minutes of June 15, 2020 with corrections.

Vote: Joshua Sterczala – abstain, Jennifer Findlay – yes, Christopher Markiewicz – yes, Matt Fitton – yes; Michael Finamore – yes; Laura Backus – yes and Sarah Sansom – yes

Town Administrator's Update

Since the last Finance Committee Meeting, a budget was passed at Town Meeting. This was great news. He received a letter from the State, which gave the towns FY20 budget numbers to go by. This amount was more than we expected. The town had made more cuts than were necessary at this point. The town is still being very cautious and will move forward with the lower budget as proposed. The general liability and workers' compensation figures for FY21 came back very high. A workers' compensation claim for the school has driven up the cost. The School Department is addressing it on their end.

A long-term care facility in Webster had a very high outbreak. They have had 50+ cases within the facility. All of the information is published on the State's website. Joshua Sterczala was appointed to the finance Committee by the Moderator. The Committee welcomes him. He has lived in Webster his whole life and felt this was a great opportunity to give back.

Finance Report

The Finance Report was not included in the Town Meeting information. The Finance Committee would like it published on the website and presented at the October Town Meeting.

Nomination of Officers

Sarah Sansom open up the nominations for Chairman. Matt Fitton nominated Sarah Sansom. Sara Sansom asked if there was any other nomination for Chairman, hearing none Sarah Sansom closed the nominations.

Motion by Matt Fitton, seconded by Laura Backus, to appoint Sarah Sansom as Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Vote: Joshua Sterczala – yes, Jennifer Findlay – yes, Christopher Markiewicz – yes, Matt Fitton – yes; Michael Finamore – yes; Laura Backus – yes and Sarah Sansom – yes

Sarah Sansom open up the nominations for Vice-Chairman. Sarah Sansom nominated Laura Backus. Sara Sansom asked if there was any other nomination for Vice-Chairman, hearing none Sarah Sansom closed the nominations.

Motion by Sarah Sansom, seconded by Jennifer Findlay, to appoint Laura Backus as Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Vote: Joshua Sterczala – yes, Jennifer Findlay – yes, Christopher Markiewicz – yes, Matt Fitton – yes; Michael Finamore – yes; Laura Backus – yes and Sarah Sansom – yes

Sarah Sansom open up the nominations for Secretary. Michael Finamore nominated Matt Fitton. Sara Sansom asked if there was any other nomination for Secretary, hearing none Sarah Sansom closed the nominations.

Motion by Michael Finamore, seconded by Sarah Sansom, to appoint Matt Fitton as Secretary of the Finance Committee.

Vote: Joshua Sterczala – yes, Jennifer Findlay – yes, Christopher Markiewicz – yes, Matt Fitton – yes; Michael Finamore – yes; Laura Backus – yes and Sarah Sansom – yes

Liaison Committees

School Building Committee: Jennifer Findley was last year liaison. They have not met very often. Meeting Minutes for the meetings have not been posted. The Committee is not very well organized. Mr. Willardson will keep the Finance Committee updated until the meeting start happening again. An OPM has been selected. The OPM will hire an architect. They are about a year away from bidding the project out.

Personnel Board: Sarah Sansom and Michael Finamore have volunteered to serve on this Board. They meet in the mornings and usually do a fair amount of work and research.

Audit Committee: The Audit Committee feel short last year. The Finance Committee would like to meet before the audit is resented. They plan to meet around the first Tuesday in December. Sarah Sansom, Laura Backus, Jennifer Findlay, and Michael Finamore have volunteered to be part of the Audit Committee.

Capital Projects Committee: The assessment of building was done a couple of years ago. They have a fairly recent list of Capital Projects coming up. Michael Finamore, Matt Fitton, and Christopher Markiewicz have volunteered to be on the Capital Projects Committee.

The Finance Committee would like a monthly update on grants. The East Main Street Project starts Monday and will go through the summer. The Lake Parkway Project will begin this summer. Route 395 is a State Project is has been put on hold since the Pandemic.

Next Finance Committee Meeting

The Finance Committee will meet on August 6, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. They have asked Tim Bell to attend in place of Mr. Willardson who will be on vacation. The meeting will take place via Zoom.

Adjournment

Motion: made by Matt Fitton, seconded by Christopher Markoewicz to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Vote: Joshua Sterczala – yes, Jennifer Findlay – yes, Christopher Markiewicz – yes, Matt Fitton – yes; Michael Finamore – yes; Laura Backus – yes and Sarah Sansom – yes

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney Friedland