

TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE, MA.
50 MAIN STREET
FINANCE COMMITTEE
REMOTE ZOOM MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021 AT 6:30 PM

1. FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR, JAY BIKOFSKY, CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:32 PM.
2. ATTENDEES: FINANCE COMMITTEE: JAY BIKOFSKY, JIM Balfanz, Pam Boudreau, Diane Reuss, Steve Shatz and William Vogt
TOWN GOVERNMENT: Michael Canales and Ericka Oleson
OTHER ATTENDEES: Steve Borns (CTSB)
3. THE JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE-SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 25, 2021 WERE PRESENTED AND A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY JIM Balfanz. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE MINUTES WERE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY ALL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT, 6-0.
4. THE JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE-SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF THE MARCH 30, 2021 EXIT AUDIT WERE PRESENTED AND A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY Pam Boudreau. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY FIVE (5) FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT WITH BILL VOGT ABSTAINING AS HE DID NOT ATTEND THIS SESSION.
5. PROPOSED FY 22 CAPITAL AND WARRANT ARTICLE REQUESTS: THOSE NOTED IN THESE MINUTES HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN VOTED UPON AND APPROVED BY THE SELECT BOARD AT THEIR APRIL 15, 2021 MORNING MEETING.

REQUESTS FINANCED WITH FREE CASH OR DEPARTMENTAL SURPLUS:

- * ARTICLE: DISCUSSION ON THE REQUEST FOR A PART TIME PLANNER FUNDED BY FREE CASH WAS DEFERRED PENDING FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH THE SELECT BOARD.
- * ARTICLE: THE REQUEST FOR \$35,000. FUNDED BY FREE CASH FOR WATER TESTING AND CONSULTANTS FOR STOCKBRIDGE BOWL WAS PRESENTED. A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY JAY BIKOFSKY. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE COMMITTEE APPROVED THIS REQUEST 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST FOR \$50,000 FREE CASH TO FUND OPEB WAS PRESENTED. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM Balfanz AND SECONDED BY STEVE SHATZ. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: THE REQUEST FOR \$35,000. FUNDED BY FREE CASH FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REST OF THE RIVER PROJECT WAS PRESENTED. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM Balfanz AND SECONDED BY BILL VOGT. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THIS REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.

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- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST FOR \$30,000. FUNDED BY FREE CASH WAS RAISED FOR TREE MONITORING AND TREATMENT WITHIN ICE GLEN. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM Balfanz AND SECONDED BY PAM BOUDREAU. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE COMMITTEE APPROVED THIS REQUEST 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST WAS MADE FOR \$8,000. FOR THE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANNING BOARD TO STUDY THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE SBRSD AND THE BHRSD. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JAY BIKOFSKY AND SECONDED BY PAM BOUDREAU. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST WAS MADE FOR \$95,000. FUNDED BY FREE CASH TO MAINTAIN AND UPGRADE THE TENNIS AND BASKETBALL COURTS, ADJACENT TO TOWN HALL. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM Balfanz AND SECONDED BY BILL VOGT. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST WAS RAISED FOR \$15,000. FUNDED WITH FREE CASH TO HIRE A LIGHTING CONSULTANT TO STUDY THE UPGRADING OF TOWN STREET LIGHTS. A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY PAM BOUDREAU. THE VOTE WAS CALLED AND THIS REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: THE NEXT REQUEST WAS FOR \$20,000. FROM THE CEMETERY TRUST FUND FOR A CONSULTANT TO STUDY AND EVALUATE THE RESTORATION OF OLD CEMETERY STONES. JIM Balfanz MADE A MOTION THAT WAS SECONDED BY STEVE SHATZ. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0 BY THE COMMITTEE.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST WAS MADE FOR \$12,000. FROM WATER RESERVES TO FUND AN UNDERGROUND CAMERA SYSTEM. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM Balfanz AND SECONDED BY JAY BIKOFSKY. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: THE REQUEST WAS MADE FOR \$38,000. FROM WATER OPERATIONS RESERVE TO FUND THE TUCKERMAN BRIDGE WATER MAIN ENGINEERING. A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY PAM BOUDREAU. THE VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE COMMITTEE APPROVED THIS REQUEST 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: THE NEXT REQUEST WAS FOR \$3,690. FROM WATER RESERVES TO FUND THE INSPECTION AND CLEANING OF THE QUIET KNOLL WATER STORAGE TANK. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM Balfanz AND SECONDED BY STEVE SHATZ. THE VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST OF \$97,717. WAS MADE FROM SEWER SURPLUS TO FUND PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST DEBT SERVICE FROM FY 2021. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM Balfanz AND SECONDED BY STEVE SHATZ. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST WAS THEN MADE FOR \$ 96,918. FROM SEWER SURPLUS TO FUND PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST DEBT SERVICE FOR FY 2022. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JAY BIKOFSKY AND SECONDED BY JIM Balfanz. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE 6-0.

REQUESTS FINANCED WITH DEBT/BORROWING:

- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST TO RESTORE THE CHIME TOWER AT A COST OF \$600,000. WAS PRESENTED BY MICHAEL CANALES. HE MENTIONED THAT THE ESTIMATES

WERE PROVIDED BY THREE (3) ENGINEERING FIRMS FOR BELL REFURBISHMENT AND RE-LOCATION, WOODWORK MOUNTING AND BRICK RE-STRUCTURING. HE PROPOSED THAT THIS PROJECT BE FINANCED WITH A 20 YEAR BOND. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JAY BIKOFSKY AND SECONDED BY JIM Balfanz. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THIS PROPOSAL WAS APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE 6-0.

- * ARTICLE: A PROPOSAL FOR \$960,000. WAS THEN PRESENTED BY MICHAEL CANALES TO PAY FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE INTERSECTION OF MAIN STREET AND ROUTE 7. IT WAS FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT THIS PROJECT COULD BE FUNDED BY ISSUING A BOND. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN SINCE THE ENGINEERS WERE FINALIZING THEIR PLANS FOR A JOINT PRESENTATION WITH THE SELECT BOARD AND FINANCE COMMITTEE SOME TIME AFTER MAY 1ST. MICHAEL CONCLUDED THAT THERE WAS NO STATE REIMBURSEMENT AVAILABLE.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST FOR \$145,000. TO PURCHASE A HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPLACEMENT TRUCK WITH A PLOW AND SANDER WAS RAISED. MICHAEL DISCUSSED FUNDING THIS REQUEST WITH BONDS VS. FREE CASH AS A METHOD TO PERIODICALLY REPLACE SIMILAR FUTURE PROPOSALS WHEN THE FUNDING WAS RETIRED ON VEHICLES REQUIRING REPLACEMENT. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM Balfanz AND SECONDED BY STEVE SHATZ. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE ACQUISITION WAS APPROVED 6-0 WITH BOND OR NOTE FUNDING TO BE SECURED.
- * ARTICLE: CHAIR BIKOFSKY INQUIRED AS TO THE STATUS OF THE PROPOSAL TO REPLACE THE PARK STREET PUMP STATION. MICHAEL MENTIONED THAT THIS REQUEST WOULD BE PRESENTED AT A FUTURE MEETING AS IT HAD AS YET TO BE APPROVED BY THE SELECT BOARD. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

REQUESTS FINANCED WITH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS:

- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST WAS NEXT MADE FOR \$34,000. FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF WOOD SIDING ON HEATON COURT BUILDINGS TO BE FINANCED BY COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS. A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY JAY BIKOFSKY. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST WAS MADE FOR \$5,000. TO RESTORE THE DAMAGED HEATON COURT SIGN TO BE FINANCED BY COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JAY BIKOFSKY AND SECONDED BY JIM Balfanz. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST WAS THEN MADE FOR \$7,270. FOR THE PRESERVATION OF A NAUMKEAG BRONZE SCULPTURE. A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY PAM BOUDREAU. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THIS REQUEST WAS APPROVED 5-1 (JIM Balfanz ABSTAINED) TO BE FINANCED WITH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS.
- * ARTICLE: THE NEXT REQUEST WAS MADE FOR \$10,000. FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE STOCKBRIDGE LIBRARY ARCHIVES HVAC SYSTEM TO ALSO BE FINANCED WITH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS. A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY JIM Balfanz. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THIS REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.

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- * ARTICLE: MICHAEL CANALES PRESENTED A BERKSHIRE THEATER FESTIVAL REQUEST FOR \$15,000. TO REPLACE THE MELLEN BARN TRIM AND SIDING. A MOTION FOR THE TRIM AND SIDING REPLACEMENT TO BE FINANCED WITH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY JAY BIKOFSKY. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 5-1 (JIM BALFANZ AGAINST).
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST WAS MADE FOR \$11,750. TO IMPROVE OPEN SPACE WITH INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL, IMPROVE RECREATIONAL WALKWAYS AND TREE WORK AT GOULD MEADOWS FINANCED WITH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS. A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY JIM BALFANZ. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: THE NEXT REQUEST WAS MADE FOR \$60,000. TO RESTORE THE CIVIL WAR MONUMENT WITH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM BALFANZ AND SECONDED BY PAM BOUDREAU. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST WAS MADE FOR \$25,000. TO RESTORE THE CONCRETE BASIN OF THE CAT AND DOG FOUNTAIN WITH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM BALFANZ AND SECONDED BY PAM BOUDREAU. A VOTE WAS THEN CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST WAS MADE TO RESTORE THE CONCRETE OF THE HORSE WATERING TROUGH WITH \$5,000. OF COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS. A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY JIM BALFANZ. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: MICHAEL MADE THE NEXT REQUEST FOR \$20,000. FOR THE STOCKBRIDGE-MUNSEE COMMUNITY TO ENGAGE SERVICES FOR GIS MAPPING, DEED RESTRICTION, AND PREPARATION FOR THE HISTORIC LISTING ASSESSMENT OF THE FIELD ARBORETUM. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM BALFANZ AND SECONDED BY JAY BIKOFSKY. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST APPROVED 6-0 WITH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING.
- * ARTICLE: A PROPOSED REQUEST FOR \$75,000. TO RECONSTRUCT THE DRIVEWAY FOR PINE WOODS, FINANCED BY COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS, WAS MADE. THE COMMITTEE QUESTIONED THE ROLE AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT THAT MIGHT BE AVAILABLE FROM AND BY THE PROPERTY MANAGER, "CONSTRUCT" ON THIS PROJECT. THE FINANCE COMMITTEE VOTED 6-0 TO TABLE THE REQUEST UNTIL FURTHER CLARIFICATION COULD BE PROVIDED AT THE NEXT MEETING.
- * ARTICLE: A REQUEST WAS MADE FOR \$33,000. FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AN ADA COMPLIANT BATHROOM AND ELEVATOR AT RIVERBROOK, FINANCED BY COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM BALFANZ AND SECONDED BY STEVE SHATZ. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THIS REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: THE NEXT REQUEST FOR \$17,000. FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A SPRINKLER SYSTEM AT RIVERBROOK WAS MADE TO BE FINANCED WITH COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM BALFANZ AND SECONDED BY PAM BOUDREAU. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.

- * ARTICLE: MICHAEL ADVISED THE COMMITTEE THAT THE PROPOSED REQUEST FOR \$15,000. TO REROOF 17 WILLARD HILL ROAD HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN AND NO ACTION WAS NECESSARY.
- * ARTICLE: THE REQUEST FOR \$100,000. TO FORM A STOCKBRIDGE HOUSING TRUST, FINANCED BY COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS, WAS PRESENTED. A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM BALFANZ AND SECONDED BY JAY BIKOFSKY. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE 6-0.
- * ARTICLE: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING WAS THEN PROPOSED FOR \$10,000. FOR THE FY 22 CPC ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET. STEVE SHATZ MADE A MOTION THAT WAS SECONDED BY JAY BIKOFSKY. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THIS REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0. JIM BALFANZ REQUESTED THAT DETAILS OF THIS ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET BE MADE AVAILABLE AT THE NEXT MEETING.
- * ARTICLE: THE FINAL REQUEST WAS MADE BY MICHAEL TO RESERVE THE MINIMUM AMOUNTS REQUIRED UNDER MGL C44B, S6 TO RESERVE THE HISTORIC RESOURCES RESERVE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING RESERVE AND OPEN SPACE RESERVE FROM COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ANTICIPATED ANNUAL REVENUES. A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY PAM BOUDREAU. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THIS REQUEST WAS APPROVED 6-0.

6. TOWN BANK BALANCES AND ACCOUNTS:

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE REVIEWED THE STATEMENT OF THE TOWN'S BANK BALANCES PREPARED BY TREASURER ERICKA OLESON. QUESTIONS WERE RAISED REGARDING THE NUMBER, SIZE, AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE ACCOUNTS. THE SUGGESTION OF ENGAGING AND INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT WAS ALSO RAISED. AFTER DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER, CHAIR BIKOFSKY SUGGESTED THAT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR MICHAEL CANALES AND TREASURER ERICKA OLESON MEET AND PREPARE A PROPOSAL FOR ANY CHANGES OR ALTERNATIVES, AS THE CASE MIGHT BE, FOR FURTHER REVIEW BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING.

7. "BABY TOWN MEETING":

CHAIR BIKOFSKY PROPOSED WEDNESDAY, MAY 26TH OR THURSDAY, MAY 27TH AT 6:30 PM FOR SCHEDULING OF A REMOTE ZOOM MEETING. HE ADDED THAT HE WOULD CHECK WITH CTSB AS WELL AS THE TOWN TO BE SURE THAT NO CONFLICTS EXISTED AND WOULD ADVISE THE COMMITTEE ACCORDINGLY.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:42 PM.