

**TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE, MA.
50 MAIN STREET
FINANCE COMMITTEE CTSB REMOTE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2020 AT 3 PM**

1. **THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIR BIKOFSKY AT 3:05 PM. INVITATIONS, HE NOTED, HAD BEEN POSTED ON THE TOWN'S WEB-SITE, AS WELL AS CIRCULATED TO THE SELECT BOARD AND MARK WEBBER.**
2. **COMMITTEE ATTENDEES: JAY BIKOFSKY, JIM Balfanz, DIANE REUSS, STEPHEN SHATZ AND WILLIAM VOGT. NEIL HOLDEN WAS ABLE TO HEAR THE AUDIO BUT UNABLE TO VERBALLY PARTICIPATE DUE TO EQUIPMENT DIFFICULTIES.**

TOWN GOVERNMENT ATTENDEES: PATRICK WHITE, SELECT BOARD

OTHER ATTENDEES: STEVE BORNES, CTSB, CLARENCE FANTO, EAGLE, KEITH RAFTERY AND CHRISTINE RASMUSSEN

3. **THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 24, 2020 WERE PRESENTED AND A MOTION WAS MADE TO ACCEPT BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY JIM Balfanz. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE MINUTES WERE ACCEPTED BY THE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE (5-0).**
4. **FY 21 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET:**

THE MATTER OF CURRENT AND PROJECTED LEGAL FEES RELATED TO SBA WAS RAISED BY SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE. CHAIR BIKOFSKY REFERRED TO THE E-MAIL FROM RAY ELLSWORTH ON THE SUBJECT WHICH HAD BEEN RECEIVED AND CIRCULATED TO THE COMMITTEE. SPECIFICALLY, THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT STATED THAT \$143,909.50 IN LEGAL FEES HAD BEEN INCURRED FROM JUNE, 2016 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2020. IN ADDITION, THE E-MAIL FURTHER INDICATED THAT \$43,207.50 WAS BILLED FROM JULY 1, 2019 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2020. STEVE SHATZ ASKED HOW THE FY 21 BUDGET WILL PROJECT ADDITIONAL FEES. CHAIR BIKOFSKY RESPONDED THAT RAY ELLSWORTH WOULD BE ASKED TO REPLY WITH DETAILS.
5. **FY 21 PROPOSED WARRANT ARTICLES:**

THE COMMITTEE WAS ADVISED THAT THE WARRANT ARTICLES PROPOSED FOR THE UPCOMING ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WERE FOR THE MOST PART DISCUSSED AND VOTED UPON AT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S JUNE 24, 2020 MEETING. ANY ADDITIONS WOULD BE AVAILABLE AFTER THE JULY 2, 2020 SELECT BOARD MEETING FOR REVIEW AT THE NEXT FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING, ON JULY 8, 2020.

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6. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. LARRYWAUG BRIDGE:

CHAIR BIKOFSKY ADVISED THE COMMITTEE THAT THIS PROJECT WAS DUE TO BEGIN ON JULY 13, 2020. HE ADDED THAT SIGNAGE HAD BEEN POSTED ON ROUTE 183 NORTH AND SOUTH BOUND INDICATING BRIDGE CLOSURE AS WELL AS DETOUR ROUTES. THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO LAST UNTIL MAY 30, 2021.

B. TOWN GARAGE STATUS:

MARK WEBBER WAS ASKED FOR AN UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES RELATED TO THE COMPLETION OF THIS PROJECT. AN E-MAIL WAS RECEIVED FROM LEN TISDALE AND CIRCULATED TO THE COMMITTEE INDICATING THAT CONTRACTORS UW MARX AND DUDLEY BILLINGS HAD REACHED AN ORAL AGREEMENT TO WORK TOGETHER REPLACING THE FLOOR SLAB. THIS WAS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THE WEEK OF JUNE 29, 2020. FURTHER UPDATES TO FOLLOW.

C. JOEL RUSSELL ZONING BYLAWS ADDITIONAL CONSULTING FEES:

A REQUEST WAS MADE TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL CONSULTING FEES. THIS WAS REFERRED TO THE PLANNING BOARD FOR REVIEW. BILL VOGT, PLANNING BOARD CHAIR, ADVISED THE COMMITTEE THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT IT'S NEXT MEETING ON JULY 7, 2020 AND A REPORT RETURNED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE REGARDING THE OUTCOME.

D. ANNUAL TOWN MEETING:

THE COMMITTEE WAS INFORMED THAT CURRENT PLANS CALL FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TO BE HELD AT 10 AM SATURDAY JULY 25, 2020 BEHIND TOWN HALL ADJACENT TO THE TENNIS COURTS AND BALL FIELD. THIS VENUE WOULD NEED TO BE CLARIFIED AS THE DRAFT ARTICLES REFER TO MONUMENT MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL'S MAIN PARKING LOT. ALSO A RAIN DATE AND VENUE WAS NOT PRESENTED. MARK WEBBER WOULD NEED TO CLARIFY.

BILL VOGT ALSO STRESSED THE NECESSITY TO FINALIZE AND POST THE PROPOSED ARTICLES FOR PRESENTATION AT THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING AT LEAST A WEEK BEFORE THE MEETING.

E. "BABY TOWN MEETING" DATE, VENUE AND AGENDA:

CHAIR BIKOFSKY POLLED THE COMMITTEE AS TO CONDUCTING THIS MEETING ON JULY 15, 2020 AT 6:30 PM UTILIZING THE CTSB ZOOM REMOTE . THE AGENDA WOULD INCLUDE WELCOMING REMARKS, THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR FY 2019 AND A REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLES

AND WARRANTS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ON JULY 25, 2020. JIM BALFANZ MENTIONED TO THE COMMITTEE THAT THE CONTENT AND MANNER OF CONDUCTING THE "BABY TOWN MEETINGS" IN PREVIOUS YEARS BY CHAIR BIKOFSKY WORKED QUITE WELL AND THERE SHOULD BE NO REASON FOR A CHANGE. THE COMMITTEE WAS IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT. MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW ON THIS MEETING.

F. 2019 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLE # 16:

THE MATTER OF \$55,000 ALLOCATED FOR LAKE MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT WAS QUESTIONED BY JIM BALFANZ AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THIS ITEM, THE "BLUE HARVESTER" WAS LEASED OR PURCHASED. IT WAS MENTIONED THAT THIS EQUIPMENT WAS IN FACT PURCHASED AND IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR JIM TO FOLLOW UP WITH PATRICK WHITE AS TO THE UTILIZATION DETAILS. MORE TO FOLLOW ON THIS.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 3:50PM.