

**TOWN OF STOCKBRIDGE, MA.  
50 MAIN STREET  
FINANCE COMMITTEE  
REMOTE ZOOM MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021 AT 6:30 PM**

1. **FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR, JAY BIKOFSKY, CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:30 PM.**
  
2. **ATTENDEES: FINANCE COMMITTEE: JAY BIKOFSKY, JIM BALFANZ, PAM BOUDREAU, NEIL HOLDEN, DIANE REUSS, STEVE SHATZ AND WILLIAM VOGT ( NEIL HOLDEN JOINED THE MEETING, LATE DUE TO A PRIOR COMMITMENT, AND WAS UNABLE TO VOTE ON A NUMBER OF MATTERS)  
TOWN GOVERNMENT: ROXANNE MCCAFFREY AND MICHAEL CANALES. OTHER ATTENDEES: STEVE BORN (CTSB)**
  
3. **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS: CHAIR BIKOFSKY CONGRATULATED CHUCK CARDILLO, GARY JOHNSON, GARY PITNEY, CARL SPRAGUE, MARK FABER CHARLIE KENNY, DON SCHNEYER AND JAMES WELCH ON THE RESULTS OF THEIR RECENT ELECTION TO TOWN OFFICE.**
  
4. **THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 28, 2021 WERE PRESENTED AND A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY BILL VOGT. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE 6-0 (NEIL HOLDEN WAS NOT PRESENT).**
  
5. **FY 22 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL:**

**CHAIR BIKOFSKY REVIEWED THE FY 22 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS WITH PARTICIPATION FROM MICHAEL CANALES. THESE INCLUDED:**

- \* **A REDUCTION IN GENERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENSES OF \$8,454.00**
- \* **AN INCREASE IN PUBLIC SAFETY EXPENSES OF \$17,587.00**
- \* **AN INCREASE IN EDUCATION OPERATING AND CAPITAL EXPENSES OF \$217,652.00**
- \* **A REDUCTION IN PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES EXPENSES OF \$74,395.00**
- \* **A REDUCTION IN HUMAN SERVICES EXPENSES OF \$7,909.00**
- \* **AN INCREASE IN CULTURE AND RECREATION EXPENSES OF \$6,983.00**
- \* **A REDUCTION IN DEBT SERVICE OF \$24,397.00**
- \* **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SAME AS FY 21**
- \* **AN INCREASE IN UNCLASSIFIED EXPENSES (TOWN INSURANCE) OF \$29,487.00**

**THE COMMITTEE WAS ADVISED THAT THE TOTAL FY 22 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET WAS \$10,713,167.00 INCLUDING EDUCATION, AN INCREASE OF \$156,554.00 OVER FY21.**

**MICHAEL CANALES FURTHER MENTIONED THAT VNA SERVICES WERE BEING INTEGRATED INTO TRI-TOWN HEALTH, COUNCIL OF AGING COMBINED WITH GREAT BARRINGTON AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN AMBULANCE AGREEMENT WITH LENOX AND LEE WOULD BE ADDRESSED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE SHATZ AND SECONDED BY DIANE REUSS. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE BUDGET WAS APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, 6-0. (NEIL HOLDEN DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE VOTE)**

6. PROPOSED FY 22 WARRANT ARTICLES NOT PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED:

ARTICLE 23: MICHAEL CANALES ADVISED THE COMMITTEE THAT \$40,000.00 WAS APPROVED BY THE SELECT BOARD, PER A RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING BOARD, TO CONTRACT PART TIME PLANNING BYLAW REVISION ASSISTANCE FUNDED WITH CERTIFIED FREE CASH. HE ADDED THAT UNSPENT FY 21 FUNDS APPROVED FOR THIS PURPOSE WOULD BE ROLLED OVER INTO FY 22 IN ORDER TO OFFSET, TO A DEGREE, THIS EXPENSE REQUEST.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM BALFANZ AND SECONDED BY STEVE SHATZ. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THIS PROPOSED ARTICLE WAS APPROVED 7-0 BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. (NEIL HOLDEN JOINED THE MEETING AND PARTICIPATED IN THE VOTE)

ARTICLE 27: THE COMMITTEE WAS INFORMED THAT THE FUNDING OF THIS ARTICLE AT \$30,000.00 FOR TREE MONITORING AND TREATMENT WITHIN ICE GLENN WOULD BE REVIEWED AT THE NEXT SELECT BOARD MEETING AND POSSIBLY INCREASED TO \$70,000.00. NO FURTHER ACTION WAS TO BE TAKEN ON THIS MATTER AT THIS TIME.

ARTICLE 31: MICHAEL THEN ADVISED THE COMMITTEE THAT \$135,000.00 CONTINGENCY MONIES WERE APPROVED BY THE SELECT BOARD TO FULLY FUND FUTURE UNANTICIPATED CONTINGENCIES OF THE LARRYWAUG BRIDGE PROJECT WITH CERTIFIED FREE CASH.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JAY BIKOFSKY AND SECONDED BY JIM BALFANZ. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE FINANCE COMMITTEE APPROVED THE REQUEST 7-0.

ARTICLE 40: THE COMMITTEE WAS ASKED TO CONSIDER AN APPROPRIATION OF \$720,000.00 TO REPLACE THE PARK STREET PUMP STATION. THE FUNDS, MICHAEL ADDED WOULD BE RAISED BY BORROWING WITH THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS OR NOTES.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM BALFANZ AND SECONDED BY STEVE SHATZ. A VOTE WAS CALLED AND THE PROPOSED APPROPRIATION WAS APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE 7-0.

7. "BABY TOWN MEETING AGENDA":

CHAIR BIKOFSKY REMINDED THE COMMITTEE OF THE SCHEDULED "BABY TOWN MEETING" ON WEDNESDAY MAY 26, 2021 AT 6:30PM VIA ZOOM. THE AGENDA WOULD INCLUDE: \* WELCOMING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS

\* FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT OF FY 2021

\* PRESENTATION OF THE FY22 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET

\* PRESENTATION OF FY 22 PROPOSED WARRANT ARTICLES

THE AGANDA WOULD INCLUDE PRESENTATIONS BY CHAIR BIKOFSKY, STEVE SHATZ AND BILL VOGT AS WELL AS COMMITTEE COMMENTS.

8. THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:10PM.