

Call to Order

Chair Moffitt called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m and initiated roll call. Through video conferencing mode, present were Chairperson Eugenie Moffitt-Y, Paul Russo-Y, Andrew Betts-Y, Linn Anderson-Y, Mary Ellen Logee-Y, Kevin O’Handley, John Barry-Y and Paul Monticciolo-Y. Absent was Spiro Christopoulos. Also present were Town Manager Andrew Flanagan, Finance Director Donna Walsh, and Patrick Lawlor, Assistant Town Manager. The meeting was videotaped and live cablecast.

FY21 One-Twelfth (1/12th) Budget Update for September

Ms. Walsh reported that the August 1/12th budget has been approved by DOR and posted. She then reviewed the September total budget at \$17,255,286 (see attached powerpoint presentation in detail). Once the budget is voted at Town Meeting, that final budget will override the July, August and September 1/12th budget. Discussion ensued on various line items.

Town Manager Presentation on Revised Final FY2021 Budget

The Town Manager advised the committee that since state aid is known at this time, a revised final budget is possible. The legislature voted that FY21 state aid and unrestricted government aid would be level funded at FY20 amounts and would result in an additional \$2,713,143. He added that the summary of changes to the budget were made consistent with prior votes of the Finance Committee, Select Board and School Committee (see detailed attached powerpoint presentation.)

Discussion ensued on changes to the budget, which included restoration of the town and school operating budgets to the February figures, reduced reliance on Free Cash for Article 5 and an increase in the retirement appropriations. The final figures for Town Meeting are: Article 4 is now \$197,825,031, Article 5 is \$1,911,108 and Article 24 is now \$2,860,000. Further discussion ensued regarding a) there will be no change in list of projects for Article 5; b) state aid in out years is unknown; c) a 15-20% reduction in revenues is expected; d) the real estate market is strong and no expected reductions in assessments; e) the end of first quarter will reveal actual reduction in numbers; and f) expenses resulting from COVID-19 are reimbursable from CARES funding.

Finance Committee Report and Letter

Discussion ensued on the timing of votes and the publication of up-to-date information in the FinCom report rather than publishing a report with incomplete information and following with a supplemental report at Town Meeting. It was decided that a conference call would be set up with the printer for the publication of the report on a revised post-deadline time schedule. Participating members would begin work on the revision of the report and letter, and will be advised of the arrangements made with the printer tomorrow. Also discussed was the possibility of amending the bylaw concerning the publication and mailing of the report. The Town Manager advised that a public forum on the FY21 budget would be held prior to Town Meeting.

Vote on the Final FY21 Budget

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Mr. Monticciollo, it was voted to recommend approval of the revised budget as presented on August 12th in the new amounts of the funded sources of Articles 4, 5 and 24. This vote supersedes any prior votes taken by the Finance Committee on the FY21 budget. Eugenie Moffitt-Y, Paul Russo-Y, Andrew Betts-Y, Linn

Anderson-A, Mary Ellen Logee-Y, Kevin O’Handley-A, John Barry-Y and Paul Monticciolo-Y. Motion passed 6-0-2 with Mr. O’Handley and Ms. Anderson abstaining.

Approval of Minutes – Triboard March 11, 2020

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Barry and seconded by Ms. Anderson, it was voted to approve above minutes. Eugenie Moffitt-Y, Paul Russo-Y, Andrew Betts-Y, Linn Anderson-Y, Mary Ellen Logee-Y, John Barry-Y and Paul Monticciolo-Y. Mr. Handley abstained. Motion passed 7-0-1.

Approval of Minutes – July 22, 2020

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Logee and seconded by Ms. Anderson, it was voted to approve above minutes. Eugenie Moffitt-Y, Paul Russo-Y, Andrew Betts-Y, Linn Anderson-Y, Mary Ellen Logee-Y, John Barry-Y and Paul Monticciolo-Y. Mr. Handley abstained. Motion passed 7-0-1.

Next Meetings

Wednesday, August 26 and September 9

Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Betts and seconded by Ms. Anderson, it was unanimously voted to adjourn. Chair Eugenie (Janie) Moffitt-Y, Linn Anderson-Y, Paul Russo-Y, Andrew Betts-Y, Mary Ellen Logee-Y, John Barry-Y, Mr. O’Handley and Paul Monticciolo-Y. Motion passed 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:36PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Martin Barraford
Recording Secretary

Attachments:

*FY20 Budget Update and FY21 1/12th Budget Approval for September
Town Manager Final FY21 Budget Presentation
Minutes of Meetings – March 11 and July 22, 2020*