



Town Of Webster

Massachusetts

Est. 1832

Finance Committee

350 Main Street
Webster, MA 01570

Sarah Sansom, Chairman
Laura Backus, Vice-Chairman
Matt Fitton, Secretary
Joseph Ralph
Courtney Friedland, Recording Secretary

Michael Finamore
Jennifer Findlay
Scott Dziedzic
Joshua Sterczala

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2021

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 Chairman Sarah Sansom at 6:05 p.m. via Zoom Conference Call.

Present: Sarah Sansom (via conference call), Matt Fitton (via conference call), Michael Finamore (via conference call), Matt Fitton (via conference call), Jennifer Findley (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.

Chairman Sarah Sansom welcomes new members Joseph Ralph and Scott Dziedzic to the Finance Committee.

Meeting Minutes

Motion by Joshua Sterczala, seconded by Laura Backus, to approve the meeting minutes of April 26, 2021.

Vote: Matt Fitton – yes, Michael Finamore – yes, Jennifer Findlay, and Sarah Sansom – yes.

Motion by Joshua Sterczala, seconded by Laura Backus, to approve the meeting minutes of May 6, 2021.

Vote: Matt Fitton – yes, Michael Finamore – yes, Jennifer Findlay, and Sarah Sansom – yes.

Town Administrator's Report

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Webster Lake weed treatment June 16th Memorial Beach closed
- Town Hall will be closed on June 18th for Juneteenth
- Book Sale at Gladys E. Kelly Library June 24-26th
- Police Cruise Night June 30th 4:00 to 8:00 PM
- Touch-a-Truck Day Town Hall Parking Lot July 10th 10:00 AM to Noon
- August 22nd Splash and Dash at Memorial Beach

1. Public Health and Safety

a. Fire

- i. Fire June 8th on School Street from lighting strike. Quick response helped minimize damage.
- ii. Working with insurance company to tear down burned structure at 146 High Street.

b. Police

- i. Junior Police Academy is accepting applicants for the program to be held August 2-6th
- ii. Currently recruiting full-time dispatcher

c. Coronavirus

- i. 5 cases last week; cases have consistently dropped for the last month
- ii. Vaccine site at Southbridge Armory is now available to walk-ins for Webster residents

2. Financially Responsible

- a. 2022 Budget completed and in place
- b. Unemployment payments. Reviewing and determining eligibility
- c. Reallocating our net metering credits from solar power. Our electric usage appears to be dropping.

3. Economic Development

- a. Mike's Crunchies and Munchies and Studio 51 Wine Bar approved for the State's vacant storefront program today
- b. Participated in hearing for additional state liquor licenses today

4. Maintain Infrastructure

- a. Lake Parkway/Klebart Ave. Paving on Wednesday and Thursday this week. Striping will be done in two weeks. Final punch list items will be completed over the next three weeks.
- b. South Main. NGrid to finished gas lines on East Main and South Main; now doing repairs on side streets. Road will be milled July 6th and 7th and paved on July 8th and 9th.
- c. Town Hall roof. Project started. More rot than expected. Project will be extended due to the extra scope.

- d. Hill Street closed indefinitely. Repairs are the responsibility of Dudley; however, the bridge is scheduled to MassDOT upgrades in three years, trying to work with MassDOT and Dudley to move up that time frame.
 - e. Water Main Improvements. Completing east Main connections this week so the roadway can be repaved.
 - f. PFAS. All tests below the 20 nanograms per liter
5. Effective Delivery of Services/Operations
 - a. Asked the State to put buoys at the Lakeside boat ramp
 - b. Still working on hiring Water and Sewer Superintendent
 6. Transparent, Open and Friendly Government
 - a. State has not made any decisions on extending remote public meetings.

Mr. Willardson stated the Munis printer went down this week. Luckily, they were able to have someone come in and fix it but with the printer being over 10 years old, there is a need to get a new printer and also use the current printer as a back-up. He stated he was seeking the Finance Committee to approve an emergency expenditure to use \$10,000 from the Reserve Fund to purchase the new Munis Printer.

Motion by Matt Fitton, seconded by Jennifer Findlay, to approve the emergency expenditure in the amount of \$10,000 to purchase a new Munis printer.

Vote: Matt Fitton – yes, Michael Finamore – yes, Jennifer Findlay, and Sarah Sansom – yes.

MONINATIONS FOR 2022 OFFICERS:

Chairman Sarah Sansom stated the Finance Committee will wait until the next meeting to vote of 2022 Officers and Committee Appointments. That way they will have all of the members in attendance.

Next Finance Committee Meeting

The Finance Committee will meet on July 15, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom meeting.

Adjournment

Motion by Jennifer Findlay, seconded by Matt Fitton, to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Vote Jennifer Findlay – yes, Matt Fitton – yes, Michael Finamore – yes, and Sarah Sansom – yes.

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney Friedland