

Town of Holliston Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 10, 2018

The meeting convened at 7:03pm in Room 105 at Holliston Town Hall. In attendance: Chairperson Ken Szajda, Vice Chairperson Michelle Zeamer, Clerk Ben Sparrell, Tim Maxwell, Sue Nersessian and Vincent Murphy. Absent: Dan Alfred.

Technology Director Chris Meo presented a Replenishment Plan for 5-year replacement upgrades for servers and other devices with a current cost of \$28,000/year. Topics discussed included: whether this expense should be in Capital, not Operations; i.e., whether computers are part of Office Equipment; and the possible use of Reserve Funds for breakages.

Ms. Zeamer made a motion to reconsider recommendation for the Technology budget. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion and it was passed by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Zeamer made a motion to add \$38,500 to the Technology budget, changing the total to \$141,536. Mr. Maxwell seconded the motion and it was passed by a vote of 6-0.

The Committee voted on Warrant Articles for FY19:

Ms. Nersessian made a motion to recommend favorable action on Articles 1-5. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Nersessian made a motion to recommend that the Town raise and appropriate \$1,246.34 for late bills in "Article 6. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Nersessian made a motion to recommend the transfer \$59,780.44 from the Reserve Fund to Snow & Ice in Article 7. Ms. Zeamer seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

Mr. Murphy made a motion to recommend favorable action on Articles 8 through 16. Mr. Sparrell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Nersessian made a motion to recommend favorable action on Article 17 to raise and appropriate or transfer funds for capital expenditures. Mr. Maxwell seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Nersessian made a motion on Article 18 to authorize the Town to borrow \$8,753,000 for the purpose of constructing a water treatment facility. Mr. Maxwell seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 6-0.

Mr. Sparrell made a motion to recommend favorable action on Article 19 on the report of the Community Preservation Committee. Ms. Nersessian seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

Mr. Murphy made a motion to recommend favorable action on Article 20: that the town appropriate from the capital expenditure fund: \$55,623 for a multi-use truck, \$221,000 for building improvements at the library, \$54,500 for Chromebooks for the school department, \$25 for gear drying equipment for the fire department; and \$200,000 from water retained earnings for an emergency backup generator. Ms. Nersessian seconded, and the motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

Mr. Murphy made a motion to recommend indefinite postponement on Article 21 to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds for the Stabilization Fund. Ms. Nersessian seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Nersessian made a motion to recommend favorable action on Article 22 to rescind the borrowing authorization previously voted under Article 30 of the Warrant for 2016 Annual Town Meeting regarding downtown traffic lights. Mr. Maxwell seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Nersessian made a motion to recommend unfavorable action on Article 23 on MGL, Chapter 140, Section 139c regarding dog license fees. Mr. Sparrell seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Nersessian noted the need to explain the ballot question concerning borrowing for the water treatment facility. Mr. Maxwell noted that by accepting the School Department budget, the Committee is accepting the School's labor contract.

Ms. Nersessian made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Sparrell seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 6-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.