

Town of Holliston
Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 12th, 2021

The meeting was held remotely under the guidelines that were issued because of the emergency caused by the COVID-19 virus. All votes taken during this meeting were done as a roll call vote.

Mr. Szajda called the Finance Committee to order at 7:01PM. In attendance were Chairperson Ken Szajda, Vice Chair Dan Alfred, Sue Nersessian, Vincent Murphy, Michelle Zeamer. and Clerk Mark Whittaker. Tim Maxwell was tardy.

Other Notable attendees included Town Administrator Travis Ahern, Town Facilities Manager James Keast, and Tina Hein, Select Board Vice Chair.

No administrative tasks were undertaken during this meeting.

Travis Ahern spoke about the 2nd quarter financial update. Several suggestions were given to Mr. Ahern as to how to better represent data on the budget spreadsheets.

A few liaison updates were made. Ms. Zeamer stated that there was concern over the BOH budget with COVID Contact tracing but due to the overwhelming increase in cases, the Massachusetts DPH has their own staff for contact tracing handling some of the work load. Mark Whittaker and Mr. Ahern brought up how the COA was looking to add a part time hire, and the hiring process for Linda Marshall's Replacement. Dr. Szajda stated that the school budget subcommittee has not met in a few weeks, but they are aware of future meeting dates to present budgets.

Chief Cassidy could not attend. Mr. Ahern discussed the financial impact of the COVID Virus. Mr. Ahern stated that the CARES act funds have had an extension to the timetables when the money is able to be spent. Mr. Ahern stated that the CARES Act funds may be spent throughout the calendar year 2021, but likely will be used up by the end of FY 2021. Additionally, Mr. Ahern spoke about a PCR COVID testing machine that may be purchased by the schools.

FY22 Budget planning will be kicked off by the Holliston Select Board on Tuesday 1-19. Because the Select Board meets on Tuesday the 19th, recommendations to the Finance committee will not be available until after Tuesday the 19th. Because of this, the Fin Com will not meet on the 19th, and will kick off budget planning on the 26th.

A motion was made to adjourn. Dan Alfred made the motion, which was seconded by Sue Nersessian. The motion passed 7-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.