

Town of Holliston

Finance Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 6th, 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.

Dr. Szajda called the Finance Committee to order at 7:02PM. In attendance were Chairperson Ken Szajda, Vice Chair Dan Alfred, Sue Nersessian, Vincent Murphy, Michelle Zeamer, Tim Maxwell, and Clerk Mark Whittaker.

Other notable attendees included Town Administrator Travis Ahern, Select Board Vice Chair Tina Hein, Chief Cassidy, Holliston Facilities Director James Keast, School Committee Budget Subcommittee member Anne Louise Hanstad.

Administrative tasks:

A motion to accept the minutes from 2-23 and 3-30 as amended in the meeting was made by Vincent Murphy and seconded by Dan Alfred. The motion carried 7-0.

Town administrator updates:

Travis Ahern gave updates on several items. Notable updates included:

1. Sharon Emerick sent the committee preliminary Q3 updates for revenue expenditures. Notable items from this update: building permit revenue is slowing, and the snow and ice budget ended up \$128,000 over budget.
2. The warrant article balance sheet for the upcoming town meeting warrant was posted.
3. The article list for the upcoming town meeting will be coming soon. Right now, the article list is 37 articles long.
4. The Holliston Select Board meeting on Monday night had a report delivered on article 15 from the December town meeting. Traffic studies indicated that a Heavy Commercial Vehicle Exclusion from several streets in Holliston was warranted.

Liaison Updates:

Tim Maxwell reported that the Holliston Fire department will likely need a line item transfer before the end of the year.

Dr. Szajda stated that the School Committee Budget Subcommittee did not meet last week and will not meet this week. Anne Louise Hanstad stated that the next date for the mediation between the Holliston School Committee and the Holliston Federation of Teachers will take place on April 28th.

Covid Financial Report:

Chief Cassidy stated 11 new expenses were posted to Munis in the last week totaling approximately \$4,000. No new requests came before the Select Board at their meeting on Monday, April 5th. Chief Cassidy also stated that the town is still awaiting guidance on how ARPA funds may be used.

FY22 budget:

Dr. Szajda presented the FY22 budget worksheet to the committee. Dr. Szajda explained the model that would not have any COLA and put \$2,000,000 into the Capital Expenditure Fund. Travis explained the model he had used to get the 1.5% COLA that only had \$1,600,000 going into the Capital Expenditure Fund.

The Finance Committee asked Travis Ahern for prioritization of the requests from the Select Board in case full funding was not available to meet all their requests.

The motion to adjourn was made by Dan Alfred and seconded by Tim Maxwell. The motion passed 7-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 PM.