

Select Board Meeting Minutes 10/12/21

Sel. Underhill called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

The following persons were present via Zoom: Sel. Erin Underhill, Sel. Craig Schultze, Town Administrator-Michael Guzinski, and Operations Support Manager Karen Bouret DeMarzo.

21-267 Vote to Open FATM Warrant

Sel. Schultze made a motion to open the November 8th Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The motion was seconded by Sel. Underhill. Sel. Underhill polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-268 Discuss/Approve FATM Warrant Articles

John McVeigh, Board of Health Director, reviewed Article 8 which is to amend Article 1, Section 7.1 B of the Town's Stormwater Regulations by adding a new subsection. Melissa Recos, the Town's engineering consultant, said setting the bottom floor elevation of buildings at a minimum of 2'-0" above Seasonal Height Groundwater Elevation would affect construction disturbing an acre or more of land. Sel. Schultze stated that this regulation is in place in many other towns. The Board was generally in favor of this article.

Jon Barry, Chair of the Capital Planning Committee, reviewed their report dated November 2021. (See attached) Mr. Barry reviewed the items as they were ranked from highest to medium to lower priorities explaining that all are important, but these are the committee's recommendations for varying reasons.

Chair Jurmain joined the meeting at 7:13pm

A discussion ensued about what to capital items include in the warrant including some of the items listed as lower priority such as picnic tables at Pleasant Meadow Park, pickleball court sound proofing and the charging station. The Board also discussed the funding for the water treatment plant for wells 1 & 2 noting that borrowing \$5,590,000 is the cap but not necessarily what will be borrowed.

The Board decided to go through the warrant sequentially and discuss each article and make changes if needed. Chair Jurmain read through the articles as follows and gave a brief explanation of each.

Article 1 – Unpaid Bills

No changes or questions

Article 2- FY22 Operational Budget Adjustments

No changes or questions

Article 3- Capital Items

Sel. Schultze asked for both the picnic tables and charging station to be added to the capital article. The Board noted they will only vote to recommend these items once final funding amounts have come in and free cash is certified. Mr. Guzinski noted that free cash has not yet been certified as of this moment but hopefully will be very soon.

A discussion ensued regarding soundproofing for the pickle ball courts and whether to add that to the capital article. The Board decided to ask the Elementary School Building Committee if there is still funding available through the school project instead at this time.

Sel. Schultze made a motion to adopt the capital item list as shown in article 3 with the addition of the picnic tables and charging station from the Capital Planning Committee's list, and to remove the

School items #12-14 with the intent to include them on the spring town meeting warrant. Sel. Underhill seconded the motion. Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Jurmain asked about a request for pet software by the Clerk's office. Mr. Guzinski said since it is the cost is under \$5000 it and can reviewed and perhaps purchased within the current budget.

Article 4 –Water Treatment Plant PFAS

No changes or questions

Article 5- New Fire Engine & New Ambulance

Mr. Guzinski addressed this article and informed the board that these vehicles could take 12-18 months for replacement and that they could be combined into one General Debt.

Article 6- Senior Work Program Tax Abatement Adjustment

No changes or questions

Article 7- Sewer Bylaw Amendment

The Board noted that the language for this article will not be ready for this town meeting. The Board agreed that is incumbent upon them to add this to spring warrant and not let it go any further.

Sel. Underhill made a motion to remove article 7 from the Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The motion was seconded by Sel. Schultze. Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

Article 8- Stormwater Bylaw Regulation Amendment

This article discussed earlier in this meeting – no changes were made

Article 9-Request Special Act – Charter Changes

Chair Jurmain noted that Town Counsel has weighed in on this article and the language put forward. The Board discussed reordering the article and possibly reinstating renaming the Finance Committee due to the Fin Com Chair's request.

Sel. Schultze made a motion to add renaming the Finance Committee to the Warrant & Finance Committee to Article 9. Sel. Underhill seconded the motion. Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

Town Account, Treasurer & Collector were removed, and Finance Director and Town Clerk were added Mr. Guzinski noted the town counsel recommended for Item M to add - and to direct town counsel or special counsel in respect to such litigation.

And Under P – add except executive sessions

Sel. Schultze made a motion to revise Article 9 as discussed. Sel. Underhill seconded the motion. Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Guzinski noted that Attorney Kate Feodoroff, town counsel's labor expert, will attend the Finance Committee to explain what is and is not appropriate for the language of this article and the Board agreed that would prudent.

Article 10- Tree Pruning/Removal

The Board decided adding sidewalks with no real plans or specific amounts, no concrete proposal, does not make sense at this time but does see it as important for the spring. A resident asked the Board to

consider reinstituting a Sidewalk Committee and Chair Jurmain said they will take that under advisement.

Article 11 – Funding for FY21 Snow & Ice Deficit

Article 12 – Unemployment Account

No changes or questions

Article 13 – OPEB Funding

No changes or questions

Article 14 – Establish Workers’ Compensation Claims Reserve Fund (111F)

Mr. Guzinski said new language was added to the current draft of the warrant

To set up an account that would help to pay for costs due to injuries on duty which Finance Director Johnson said averages about \$95,000 per year. The fund would roll over year to year if funds weren’t used – actual funding would occur in the spring.

Sel. Underhill made a motion to include the new language for Article 14 of the FATM. Sel. Schultze seconded the motion. Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

Article 15 – Rescind Balance of Unneeded Borrowing Authorizations

No changes or questions

21-269 Vote to Close and Sign FATM Warrant

Sel. Underhill made a motion to close the FATM. Seconded by Sel. Schultze. Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

Sel. Underhill made a motion to approve and sign the FATM warrant as amended tonight. The motion was seconded by Sel. Schultze. Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-270 Board/Committee Liaison Updates

Sel. Underhill gave a brief update from the last School Committee meeting where they discussed vaccination rates at the school.

21-271 Review and Approve Draft Minutes

Sel. Underhill made a motion to approve the Draft Minutes for October 4, 2021. The motion was seconded by Sel. Schultze. Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

Sel. Underhill made a motion to approve the Draft Minutes for October 6, 2021. The motion was seconded by Sel. Schultze. Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-272 Review and Approve Water/Sewer Commitments

Sel. Schultze made a motion to approve the Water/Sewer commitment to the collector for September 2021 in the amount of \$5,303.37. Sel. Underhill seconded this motion. Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

Sel. Underhill made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Sel. Schultze. Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously at 9:02pm

Respectfully submitted by Victoria Schindler