



# Town of Topsfield Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Hybrid In Person / Zoom Meeting

**March 13th, 2023 6:30 PM**

Topic: Finance Committee

Time: March 13th, 2023 6:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

COA Conference Room at Town Hall

- I. Call to Order 6:30 PM
- II. **Attendance:** Che Elwell, David Larson, Tim O'Malley, Jon Guido, Catherine Hodges (remote), Karen Duval , Mike Hartman, Catherine Gabriel-Town Finance (remote),
- III. **Planning Board:**
  - a. Martha Morrison of the Planning Board reviewed the Warrant Article pertaining to the Planning Board. Martha very thoroughly reviewed each proposed Warrant Article.
  - b. Martha Morrison also discussed a request which had been made to build on the NE Corner of Rt. 1 and High Street (Rt. 97). Ms. Morrison discussed the challenges which may be present such as storm water management with the proposed building(s) project at this location. This intersection is one of the highest in the State of Massachusetts for traffic accidents.
- IV. **Meeting Minutes:**
  - a. Meeting minutes from February 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>- All voted to approve the minutes. Karen Duval abstained on the vote for the February 13<sup>th</sup> minutes as she was not present at that meeting.

## V. **FinCom Financial Model Review**

- a. Mike Hartmann reviewed a number of potential scenarios where budgets could be adjusted in an effort to meet possible budgeting needs..
- b. A discussion also occurred regarding the Elementary Schools suggested override target of \$1.2M. A discussion also ensued around the suggested override amount and the possibility of adjusting this request downward.

## VI. **Warrant Article Review**

- a. A motion was raised to allow initial voting of FinCom members, and that they can be amended up until the date in which Warrant Articles are printed.

Motion to approve: Jon Guido

Second: David Larsen

All voted yes

- b. Motion for Positive Action for base budget by individual department which are within the Omnibus Budget worksheets:

Motion to approve: Jon Guido

Second: David Larson

All voted yes

### **Warrant Article initial vote**

Several Warrants were reviewed and subsequently voted on by the FinCom. These were tracked by a **Vote Tracker**; a summary of which is an addendum to these meeting minutes.

A general discussion occurred about the remaining articles to be discussed and voted on at future meetings.

Motion to Adjourn: David Larson

Second -Jon Guido

All voted yes

The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Discussion on agenda topics is at the discretion of the Chair. Discussion during meetings should always be courteous and respectful. You must be recognized by the Chair before any comments, questions or discussion may be offered or considered.