

**MINUTES OF MEETING
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
August 7, 2023**

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(Meeting starts at Time Code 02:50:02)

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A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Monday, August 7, 2023. This was a hybrid meeting held both in person and electronically via ZOOM. The meeting was called to order at 9:34 PM by Chair, Jeron Alston.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeron Alston, Chair; Sarah Gallagher, Vice-Chair; Justin Farmer; Betty Wetmore; Cory O'Brien

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lesley DeNardis, Bob Anthony

Public Input: None

The following items were addressed:

1. Refund of property and motor vehicle taxes collected prior to July 1, 2023-totaling \$10,033.87

–Moved by Ms. Wetmore and seconded by Ms. Gallagher.

A vote was taken. The item passed unanimously.

2. Refund of Property taxes collected between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024 totaling \$5,383.40

–Moved by Ms. Gallagher and seconded by Mr. O'Brien.

A vote was taken. The item passed unanimously.

3. Refund of motor vehicle taxes collected between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024-totaling \$4,894.12

–Moved by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mr. Alston.

A vote was taken. The item passed unanimously.

4. Reappointment of James Pascarella to the Board of Assessment Appeals for a term to expire January 31, 2026 (D-8)

–Moved by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mr. Alston.

A vote was taken. The item passed unanimously.

5. Order amending the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget

–Moved by Mr. O’Brien and seconded by Mr. Alston. DISCUSSION: Mr. Eatman explained that at the time when we were creating the Town budget, the budget assumed Pilot payments in the amount of \$7,233,473 which was in the Governor’s recommended budget. After the State budget was negotiated, the Town will now receive \$7,667,482. The Administration wishes to use these funds for various items: increase Risk Manager salary by \$26,500, increase the Traffic Department line by a \$10,000 and increase Legislative Council Emergency and Contingency Fund by \$397,509. Mr. Farmer asked was Risk Manager funded at this amount at Budget time? Mr. Eatman said no and explained it should be \$26,000 more. The person in the position has resigned and at this time, in order to be competitive in the job market, it should be funded higher. Mr. Farmer asked Mr. Eatman for documentation of this information. Mr. Eatman explained the position pays for itself. Mr. Grace said that during budget season he sent a salary analysis sheet. Ms. Wetmore asked if this position is filled. Mr. Grace said no. At budget time it was filled but has since been vacated. Ms. Gallagher said it is worth the investment to ensure getting good candidates. Mr. Alston asked how long the position was filled at the previous salary. Mr. Eatman said 2019 to 2023.

A vote was taken. The item passed with 1 opposed (Wetmore)

6. Order authorizing interdepartmental transfer 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget (BOE Capital Non-Recurring Account) - \$799,999

– Moved by Ms. Gallagher and seconded by Mr. Alston. DISCUSSION: Mr. Eatman explained that this transfer will replenish the capital funds from the Board of Education which were used on July 31, 2023 to pay for the revaluation. This is the satisfaction of Section 5 of the ordinance passed on July 31, 2023.

A vote was taken. The item passed with 1 abstention (Farmer)

7. Order authorizing interdepartmental transfer 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget (BOE Capital Non-Recurring Account) - \$4,015,000

–Moved by Mr. O’Brien and seconded by Ms. Gallagher. DISCUSSION: Ms. Wetmore asked if this a part of the original sale of Wintergreen. Mr. Eatman said yes, this is the 8 million dollars that was promised to the Board. Ms. Wetmore asked is there any money left from the sale. Mr. Eatman said yes, on the Town side which we will see it in the audit. The Town spent most of it on Capital projects. There is a small amount left and he can provide that amount to Council.

A vote was taken. The item passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:02 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk
Rose Lion, Assistant

for Jeron Alston, Chair