



Finance Committee
TOWN OF HALIFAX
499 Plymouth Street
Halifax, MA 02338

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday April 5, 2023

Committee Members Present (Remotely): Todd Dargie, Cheryll Zarrella Burke, Frank Johnston, Jim Walters & Michael Bennett

Committee members absent: Jonathan Schmaling

Audience (Remotely): Sandy Nolan, Steve Hayward, Susan Lawless and Cody Haddad

Todd Dargie called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm

Meeting is being record by area 58

Meeting Minutes: Deferred till next meeting.

Reserve Fund Transfer: Due to unexpected lawsuits and town council. The legal account is currently negative \$3,781.13. The requested reserve fund transfer is in the amount of \$50,000 for FY23.

Todd entertained a motion to recommend a reserve fund transfer in the amount of \$50,000 into the legal account.

Motion: Michel Bennett

Second: Frank Johnston

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Sandy informed the committee the transfer form needs to be signed and returned to the accounting office.

Discuss and Recommend FY24 Town Articles:

Highway Department - Todd Dargie introduced Steve Hayward from the highway department to review updated request. The current item being discussed is an EW60E Rubber tired Compact Excavator. This is a small compact machine and easier to maneuver than what they have currently. The department has been able to test the equipment and believes it is the best option for the town. The request is for \$135,000. Cody explains to the committee that due to mass procurement laws any trade in over \$10,000 must go through a sealed bid or auction and could not be traded in. Therefor the committee would need to approve the full sale price of the excavator at \$150,080.000.

Todd entertained a motion to recommend the EW60E Rubber tired Compact Excavator in the amount of \$150,080.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

School Department – The line item for the roof top heating units on SLRD high school has been deferred and will be recommended at the town meeting.

Town Warrant - Cody informs the committee he has the warrant almost completed and would like to review it during the current session. Cody explains everything in red is not finalized.

Review, Discuss and Recommend FY24 Expenditures:

Cody entertained a motion to recommend Article 1 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 2 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 3 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Article 4 will be recommended once the figures are completed.

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 5 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 6 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 7 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Article 8 will be recommended once the figures are completed.

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 9 on the town warrant for FY24 Capital Plan

Motion: Michael Bennett

Second: Frank Johnston

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 10 on the town warrant.

Motion: Michael Bennett

Second: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 11 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 12 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 13 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Article 14 will be recommended at the town meeting.

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 15 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to not recommend Article 16 on the town warrant for the chipper.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 17 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 18 on the town warrant to create the stabilization opioid settlement fund.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 19 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 20 on the town warrant to negotiate a pilot.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Frank Johnston

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 21 on the town warrant.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 22 on the town warrant.

Motion: Michael Bennett

Second: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to not recommend Article 23 on the town warrant to increase the board of selectman from 3 members to 5 members for FY24 ballot.

Motion: Jim Walters

Second: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to make no recommendation on Article 24 on the town warrant to change town clerk, treasurer/collector and highway surveyor from elected to appointed positions.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Jim Walters

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett (No), Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie (Motion carries 4/1)

Todd entertained a motion to make no recommendation on Article 25 on the town warrant to make the police chief a “strong chief”

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Jim Walters

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Article 26 will not be voted on by the finance committee.

Review, Discuss and Recommend FY24 Expenditures: Cody reviews with the committee the current updated Article 4 expenditures and the changes made based upon recommendation from the finance committee.

Todd entertained a motion to recommend the Fire Department Budget

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Frank Johnston

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend line item 60 for Emergency Management for \$950

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Frank Johnston

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Line item 69 for dispatch services for \$200,000.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Jim Walters

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Line item 63 for Building inspector expenses for \$6,888.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Frank Johnston

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Line item 111 for health expense \$10,374.

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Frank Johnston

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Line item 127 for library expense for \$88,714

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Jim Walters

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Line item 149B for debt HES Fire Suppressions System \$169,150

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Frank Johnston

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Line item 155 for OPEB Trust for \$40,000

Motion: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Second: Frank Johnston

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 4 for town warrant.

Motion: Frank Johnston

Second: Jim Walters

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

Todd entertained a motion to recommend Article 8 for town warrant.

Motion: Jim Walters

Second: Cheryll Zarrella Burke

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarrella Burke & Todd Dargie

New Town Revenue Suggestions: Nothing new to report.

As May Arise: Nothing new to report.

Public Participation: No public participation

Next Meeting Planning: Next meeting will be Monday, April 24th at 6:00 PM, May 1st at 6:00 PM and May 8th at 5:30 PM

Exhibit List:

- **Reserve Fund Transfer Request**
- **Woodco Machinery Proposal**
- **Draft Warrant April 4, 2023**
- **FY 24 Fin Com Budget with suggested budgets from TA**

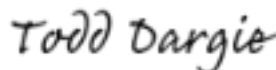
Todd entertained a motion to adjourn at 8:20 PM

Motion: Cheryll Zarella Burke

Second: Michael Bennett

Roll Call: Frank Johnston, Michael Bennett, Jim Walters, Cheryll Zarella Burke, Jonathan Schmaling & Todd Dargie

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Todd Dargie". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. Below the signature is a solid horizontal line.

Todd Dargie, Chairperson