Finance Committee

TOWN OF HALIFAX

499 Plymouth Street

Halifax, MA 02338

**Meeting Minutes**

**Monday June 14, 2021**

**Committee Members Present**: Fred McGovern, Tom Connolly, Cheryll Zarella Burke, Drew McGlincy, Joe Vetrano

Also, in attendance in the audience were: Charlie Seelig, Chief Chaves, Sandra Nolan, Gordon Andrews, Michael Bennett, Martha Hall, Jonathan Schmaling, Bob Ross, Cesar Calouro, Susan Lawless, Ashley Disesa, Troy Garron, Bert Gaynor

The meeting was recorded by Zoom

**Fred called the meeting to order at 6:02pm**

**Fred entertained a motion to Accept the minutes from 5/24/21**

Motion: Cheryll

Second: Joe

**AIF**

**Fred entertained a motion to approve a Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount of $2500 for the EV charging station additional expense.**

Motion: Cheryll

Second: Joe

**AIF**

**Fred entertained a motion to approve a Line Item transfer in the amount of $443.50 from Fire Wages to Fire Chief-holiday**

Motion: Cheryll

Second: Joe

**AIF**

**Fred entertained a motion to approve a Line Item transfer in the amount of $4,000 from Fire Training to Fire** **Ambulance supplies**

Motion: Cheryll

Second: Joe

**AIF**

**Fred entertained a motion to approve a Line Item transfer in the amount of $2,000 from the Motorcycle Article**

**to Police Vehicle Maintenance**

Motion: Cheryll

Second: Joe

**AIF**

**Fred entertained a motion to approve a Line Item transfer in the amount of $1,000 from the Police Station Maintenance to the Police Vehicle Maintenance**

Motion: Cheryll

Second: Joe

**AIF**

**Fred entertained a motion to approve a Line Item transfer in the amount of $450 from the Police Wages account to the Police Clerical wages**

Motion: Cheryll

Second: Joe

**AIF**

**Fred entertained a motion to approve a Line Item transfer in the amount of $545 from the Recycling Office Expense to the Recycling Clerical**

Motion: Cheryll

Second: Joe

**AIF**

Fred said he would like to handle the reappointment of Cheryll Zarella Burke to the Finance Committee. Cheryll confirmed that she would like to be reappointed to the Committee when her term expired on 6/15/21.

**Fred entertained a motion to reappoint Cheryll Zarella Burke to the Finance Committee term to expire 6/15/2024**

Motion: Fred

Second: Joe

**AIF**

**Bert Gaynor, moderator, cast his vote to appoint Cheryll**

**Gordon Andrews called the Board of Selectmen meeting to order at 6:13pm**

**Gordon voted yes, Ashley voted yes, Troy voted yes, BOS AIF**

Fred stated he would next like to interview Jonathan Schmaling who had submitted a Talent Bank Form after the last meeting for Fin Com. Fred asked Jon to tell the Fin Com a little bit about himself. Jon said he has been in Halifax for 12 years and has been heavily involved in coaching youth sports. He has 3 children. He would like to get more involved in the Town other than just coaching. He said is works at a career school in Plymouth where he is involved with the budgeting and feels that it is a good fit for the Fin Com. He has his Masters in Education. Cheryll, Drew and Joe had no questions for Jonathan. Drew asked if the Fin Com was trying to expand to 9 members, and maybe they should talk about that. Fred explained that the Fin Com was not expanding, they simply are filling empty seats. Fred asked Jon about the fact of his wife being on both the Halifax Elementary School Committee and the Silver Lake Regional School Committee and if that would be too much of a time conflict during budget season. He said Jon’s wife would be very busy with those budgets at the same time the Fin Com is very busy with the Town’s budget and he knows that there is a younger child at home and he just wanted to make sure that Jon would be able to make the time commitment necessary. Jon said it would not be a problem and he does not commit to things he can not give his full commitment to. Bert Gaynor asked if Jon Schmaling had a conflict of interest due to the fact that his wife serves on both committees. Fred said he would have to investigate if that was an actual Conflict of Interest under the law.

**Fred entertained a motion to have Michael Bennet appointed to the Fin Com term to expire 6/15/2024**

Motion: Cheryll

Second: Joe

**AIF (Fred abstained as he was leaving the committee and felt it should be their decision)**

**Bert Gaynor, moderator, voted to appoint**

**Gordon entertained a motion to appoint Michael Bennett**

Motion: Troy

Second: Ashely

**AIF**

Gordon asked Fred if any of the applicants had considered accepting a position on the Capital Planning Committee instead of Fin Com. Michael Bennet said he preferred Fin Com. Martha Hall said she would consider either, but preferred Fin Com. Jon Schmaling said he was only interested in Fin Com.

**Fred entertained a motion to appoint Martha Hall to the Fin Com, term to expire 6/15/ 2022**

Motion: Drew

Second: Tom

**AIF (Fred abstained as he was leaving the committee and felt it should be their decision)**

**Gordon entertained a motion to appoint Martha Hall**

Motion: Ashley

Second: Troy

**AIF**

**Gordon said he was making a motion to appoint Jonathan Schmaling to the Finance Committee term to expire** **June 15, 2023**

Second: Drew

**AIF (Fred abstained as he was leaving the committee and felt it should be their decision)**

**Ashely and Troy voted in favor 3-0 Selectmen**

Linda Cole asked if she should reach out to Michael O’brien, who had previously been recommended by the Finance Committee to be appointed and let him know that after the vote on 6/14/21 he was no longer being appointed. Fred said that would be good. Drew said he may resign and switch to another Committee. Fred suggested that Drew decide, if he could, whether or not he wanted to resign before 6/21/21 and that way in the 6/21/21 meeting, the Fin Com could decide if they wanted to appoint Michael O’Brien or the other candidate who is interviewing that night.

Fred said he wanted to discuss the pay rate for the new COA director. Charlie said she had previously worked for the Town of Kingston and had some forms of experience there. He said the Board of Selectmen had already agreed to the Step 3 and now the fin Com had to decide how to vote. Charlie said she had already worked a few hours in Halifax and he expected she would be in Halifax full time by the end of June.

**Fred entertained a motion to approve the pay rate step for the new COA director at Step 3**

Motion: Tom

Second: Joe

**4-1 Drew was against**

Fred said there should be a discussion about Zoom vs in person meetings. Charlie said as of midnight that night there may be no discussion because according to the legislature fully remote meetings would no longer be allowed. Quorum of the Fin Com must be in a physical space. He said the legislature may change that in the near future but as of 12:01am 6/15/21 in person would be the meeting model. He said Mark Bobrowski wanted to Zoom in for the information meeting on 6/21/21 but it is allowable for some people to Zoom in as long as the quorum and the Chair of the Fin Com are together in a physical space. Fred suggested they do a hybrid meeting for meeting with Mark.

**Fred entertained a motion to meet in person beginning on 6/21/21**

Motion: Cheryll

Second: Tom

**AIF (Fred abstained as he was leaving the committee and felt it should be their decision)**

Linda Cole questioned whether the Fin Com wanted to continue meeting at 6 when they returned to in person.

**Fred entertained a motion to meet at 6pm**

Motion: Cheryll

Second: Tom

**AIF (Fred abstained as he was leaving the committee and felt it should be their decision)**

Fred set the calendar for meeting again on 6/21/21 and 6/28/21

Fred wanted to discuss the reorganization of the Fin Com

**Fred entertained a motion to appoint Tom Connolly as the Chair of Fin Com**

Motion: Cheryll

Second: Joe

**AIF (Fred abstained as he was leaving the committee and felt it should be their decision)**

**Fred entertained a motion to appoint Joe as clerk of the Finance Committee**

Motion: Tom

Second: Cheryll

**AIF (Fred abstained as he was leaving the committee and felt it should be their decision)**

**Fred entertained a motion to appoint Cheryll Zarella Burke as Vice Chair of the Fin Com**

Motion: Joe

Second: Tom

**AIF (Fred abstained as he was leaving the committee and felt it should be their decision)**

Under correspondence Linda said there was a Talent Bank Form sent in by Todd Dargie. Joe asked Linda to reach out to Todd and see if he could come in for an interview on 6/21/21.

Ashley said she wanted to thank Fred for his service to the Town and the Fin Com. Fred said he may not be gone entirely and that if they in fact made an IT advisory committee, he would join that. He said he just needed something with a little less of a time commitment. Tom agreed that he was sorry to see Fred go but wanted to thank him for his service.

**Fred entertained a motion to adjourn at 6:57pm**

Motion; Cheryll

Second: Joe

**AIF**

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Cole, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Tom Connolly, Clerk