

Finance Committee
Town of Halifax
499 Plymouth Street
Halifax, MA 02338

Meeting Minutes
January 30, 2023

Committee Members Present: Michael Bennett, Todd Dargie, Cheryll Zarella Burke, Jim Walters, and Frank Johnston

Audience: Sandy Nolan, Chief Chaves, Holly J. Merry, Susan Lawless, Cesar Calouro

Todd started with a sincere Thank you to Tom Connelly, for his efforts and work with the Finance Committee and stated that he will be missed.

Todd called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Todd introduced Holly J. Merry; the first applicant interested in the Secretarial position. Holly gave a brief introduction regarding herself and family that have been residents for 40+ years. She will be retired soon and thought that keeping in touch with the finances of Halifax would be of interest to her. The committee explained the hours needed and that the busy season would be of course budget season. The committee thanked her for her interest in the position.

Waiting for the next applicant to interview, Todd discussed the upcoming Wage and Personnel meetings with the committee. There will be meetings on February 8th and 22nd.

The committee discussed the FY24 budgets, Sandy said that most were submitted. She will reach out to the smaller departments to remind them to submit their budgets. Todd also discussed the new revenue idea file that Cesar has set up, and review ideas possibly in time for Town Meeting.

Sandy said that she will email Department heads asking for their fee schedules and to look at other towns to see if they are in line and can possibly increase our fees for additional revenue. It was agreed that as part of the analysis a comprehensive town fee schedule would be aggregated as one does not exist today.

The Committee interviewed the next applicant, Katelyn Esposito. She is currently employed 9-5 p.m. but will definitely be available for the Finance Committee meetings at 6 p.m. She is currently in training for Open Meeting Laws and has experience in budget and financial work. The committee mentioned that they are currently several months behind with the minutes and that additional hours may be needed for that. After no more questions, the committee thanked Katelyn for her interest in the position and that their decision should be reached shortly.

Todd reached out to the applicant scheduled for 6:20 p.m. and although she received correspondence that they would like to interview her, she never received the zoom link. Todd explained that he did not want to prolong the decision, but that he would like to interview Gina Di Munzio and that she would be available on Monday, February 6, 2023.

Sandy told the committee that she will post the agenda on Thursday at 2 p.m. and that all agenda items requested should be submitted to Todd on Wednesday. They also discussed the zoom meetings continuing and the Town Clerk, Susan Lawless, interjected and said that she would be surprised if the State allowed the zoom meetings to end.

Cheryll – Motion to adjourn at 6:54 p.m.

Michael – Second

AIF with roll call

Frank, Jim, Cheryll, Michael, Todd

Respectfully submitted,


Michael Bennett, Clerk