

Town of Sterling
Joint Finance & Capital Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
April 29, 2021
Zoom

Finance Committee and CBC meeting called to order by Todd Chapman at 6:00 pm

Fincom Attendees: Todd Chapman, Ezequiel Ayala, Mary Cliett, Chris Paquette, George Handy

CBC Attendees: Todd Chapman, Ezequiel Ayala, Lynne Sheppard, Bob Brown Mary Cliett

Also Attending: Arden Sonnenberg, Select Board, Kellie Hebert, Town Administrator, Fred Aponte, Town Accountant and Valerie Handy, Recording Secretary for Fincom and CBC

Approval of Fincom and CBC Minutes: Motion to approve April 15, 2021 minutes was made by Mary Cliett of CBC and 2nd by Lynne Sheppard of CBC. Motion to approve April 15, 2021 minutes was made by Chris Paquette of Fincom and 2nd by Mary Cliett of Fincom. Fincom and CBC roll call vote unanimous.

Reserve Fund Transfers: None

Fincom Review of Warrant Articles:

Vote to Approve Playground Warrant article: Motion to approve by George Handy, 2nd by Mary Cliett. Roll call vote unanimous.

Vote to Approve Breaking-out Omnibus Budget Citizen's Petition Warrant article: This proposal would require Omnibus Budget article to be split into three separate articles: Omnibus, Wachusett Regional School District and Monty Tech Vocational School. Motion to approve Finance Committee support of this proposal made by George Handy, 2nd by Ezequiel Ayala. Roll call vote unanimous.

Not Recommended by Finance Committee – Review of Citizen's Petition to redefine Capital Items: Motion to disapprove (Finance Committee does not support) made by George Handy and 2nd by Chris Paquette. Roll call vote unanimous.

Kellie Hebert gave an update on a new expenditure needed by the Water Enterprise Fund. \$34K will be needed for Testing, erosion; this is a non-personnel related expense.

Kellie also gave an update on the Insurance Advisory Commission. Savings on health insurance premiums will be offset by a 5% increase in property casualty liability insurance billings.

Announcement that Sandra Habe has been hired as New Recreation Director. Paul Lyons will be retiring as DPW director this week. John Petrin, DPW consultant will take over responsibilities until Jeff Nutting replaces him as interim director.

Arden Sonnenberg mentioned she will be taking a Civil Discourse Training course on May 12. This is a recorded course and is recommended for the public sector.

Set Next Meeting Date: May 6, 6:00pm

Motion to Adjourn Fincom and CBC Meeting: CBC motion made by Mary Cliett, 2nd by Ezequiel Ayala. Fincom motion made by George Handy, 2nd by Chris Paquette. Both unanimously supported.