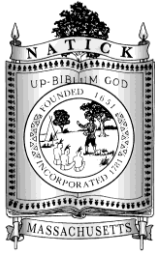


FIRST DRAFT



Natick Finance Committee

Pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 3 of the Town of Natick By-Laws, I attest that the attached copy is the approved copy of the minutes for the following Meeting:

Town of Natick Finance Committee

Meeting Date: October 7, 2021

The minutes were approved through the following action:

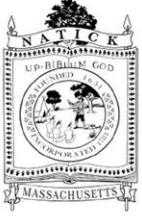
Motion:	xxx
Made by:	xxx
Seconded by:	xxx
Vote:	0 – 0 – 0
Date:	, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Evans

Secretary

Natick Finance Committee



TOWN OF NATICK

Meeting Notice

POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF M.G.L. CHAPTER 30A, Sections 18-25

Natick Finance Committee

<u>DAY, DATE AND TIME</u>
October 7, 2021 at 7:00 PM
<u>PLACE OF MEETING</u>
Virtual Meeting accessed via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84585053038 Meeting ID: 845 8505 3038 Passcode: 906920 One tap mobile +19292056099,,84585053038# US (New York)) Dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Notice to the Public: 1) Finance Committee meetings may be broadcast/recorded by Natick Pegasus. 2) The meeting is an open public meeting and interested parties can attend the meeting. 3) Those seeking to make public comments (for topics not on the agenda or for specific agenda items) are requested to submit their comments in advance, by 2:00 PM on the day of the meeting, to fincom@natickma.org. Comments will be posted on NovusAgenda and read aloud for the proper agenda item. Please keep comments to 350-400 words. 4) The Chat function on Zoom Conferencing will be disabled.

MEETING AGENDA

Posted: October 5, 2021 10:17 AM

1. Call to Order
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence
 - b. Advisement of Pegasus Live Broadcast and Recording for On-Demand Viewing
 - c. Review of Meeting Agenda and Ordering of Items
2. Announcements
3. Public Comments
 - a. [Committee policy & procedures available via this link and also at the meeting location](#)
4. Meeting Minutes
 - a. Review & Approve Meeting Minutes for September 30, 2021 and October 5, 2021
5. New Business
 - a. Possible reconsideration of Article 29: Amend Zoning By-Laws: Limited Salesroom for Motor Vehicles
 - b. Possible reconsideration of Article 28: Amend Zoning By-Laws: Cluster Bylaw Amendments
6. 2021 Fall Town Meeting Warrant Articles - Public Hearing
 - a. Article 2: Fiscal 2022 Omnibus Budget
 - b. Article 5: Stabilization Fund
 - c. Article 6: Operational/Rainy Day Stabilization Fund
 - d. Article 7: Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Appropriation or Transfer of Funds
 - e. Article 11: Capital Stabilization Fund
7. Committee and Sub-Committee Scheduling
 - a. Update on upcoming Committee and Subcommittee meetings
8. Committee Discussion (for items not on the agenda)
9. Adjourn

Meeting may be televised live and recorded by Natick Pegasus. Any times listed for specific agenda items are approximate and not binding. Please note the committee may take the items on this agenda out of order.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Hossam Behery, Member
Dirk Coburn, Member
David Coffey, Member
Bruce Evans, Secretary
Todd Gillenwater, Vice-Chairman
Kat Monahan, Member
Richard Pope, Member
Patti Sciarra, Member
Linda Wollschlager, Chairperson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Cathy Coughlin, Member
Jeff DeLuca, Member
Chris Resmini, Member
Phil Rooney, Member

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Linda Wollschlager, Chairperson.

Announcements – None

Public Comments – None

Mr. Evans moved to open the public hearing on 2021 Fall Annual Town Meeting warrant articles, seconded by Mr. Gillenwater, voted 9 – 0 – 0.

Roll-call vote:

Mr. Behery = yes	Ms. Monahan = yes
Mr. Coburn = yes	Mr. Pope = yes
Mr. Coffey = yes	Ms. Sciarra = yes
Mr. Evans = yes	Ms. Wollschlager = yes
Mr. Gillenwater = yes	

Possible reconsideration of Article 29: Amend Zoning By-Laws: Limited Salesroom for Motor Vehicles

Mr. Ted Fields, Senior Planner, Community & Economic Development

Mr. Julian Munnich, Chair, Planning Board

Ms. Wollschlager stated that when the Committee reviewed this earlier, Motion A was inadvertently omitted from the Finance Committee questionnaire.

Mr. Fields read MOTION A:

MOVE to amend SECTION 200, Definitions: Limited Salesroom for Motor Vehicles, by incorporating additional language as follows (with proposed textual changes shown in ***bold italics***):

“A retail establishment for the sale of Motor Vehicles with Class I license per MGL c. 140 s. 59 having no more than four vehicles on site for sale, test driving or display, with no repair facilities ***other than service facilities for the brand of motor vehicles being sold.***”

This motion was approved 5 – 0 – 0 by the Planning Board.

Mr. Evans asked for verification that voting for reconsideration meant that we need to vote not only on Motion A, but to re-vote Motion B. Ms. Wollschlager confirmed this, but noted that there were no changes to Motion B.

Mr. Evans moved to reconsider Article 29, seconded by Mr. Behery, voted 9 – 0 – 0.

Roll-call vote:

Mr. Behery = yes	Ms. Monahan = yes
Mr. Coburn = yes	Mr. Pope = yes
Mr. Coffey = yes	Ms. Sciarra = yes
Mr. Evans = yes	Ms. Wollschlager = yes
Mr. Gillenwater = yes	

Debate:

Mr. Evans noted that this was an accidental omission and thought quickly dispense with this. We heard a lot of good information the other night on this, and corrected all the verbiage now.

Mr. Behery noted that it's important for the Committee to vote on both Motion A and B to make it clear to Town Meeting what the Finance Committee recommendation is.

Mr. Evans moved to recommend favorable action on Article 29 motion A, seconded by Mr. Gillenwater, voted 8 – 0 – 1.

Roll-call vote:

Mr. Behery = yes	Ms. Monahan = yes
Mr. Coburn = abstain	Mr. Pope = yes
Mr. Coffey = yes	Ms. Sciarra = yes
Mr. Evans = yes	Ms. Wollschlager = yes
Mr. Gillenwater = yes	

Mr. Evans said Section 200 is an important section in the zoning bylaws since it establishes the definition in precise form that is referenced throughout the zoning bylaws, particularly in the regulation schedule.

Mr. Coburn noted that he will abstain stating that this is a policy decision and the role of the Finance Committee is not to make policy. He said he was uncomfortable with the idea that the public statutes would tell a business, based on contracts that business signed, what brand of motor vehicles they are allowed to service. Further, he noted that he did not want to stand in the way of this and understands that the intent is to make sure it's incidental and there is a public interest in that.

Mr. Evans moved to recommend favorable action on Article 29 Motion A, seconded by Mr. Gillenwater, voted 9 – 0 – 0.

Roll-call vote:

Mr. Behery = yes	Ms. Monahan = yes
Mr. Coburn = yes	Mr. Pope = yes
Mr. Coffey = yes	Ms. Sciarra = yes
Mr. Evans = yes	Ms. Wollschlager = yes
Mr. Gillenwater = yes	

Debate

Mr. Evans noted that the Committee already approved Motion B at the previous meeting and no changes were made subsequent to that meeting.

Possible reconsideration of Article 28: Amend Zoning By-Laws: Cluster Bylaw Amendments

Ms. Wollschlager noted that, after the committee voted favorable action on the Article 28 motion, errors in the motion were pointed out. Ms. Wollschlager asked whether the Planning Board has voted on this revised motion yet. Mr. Munnich said the Planning Board voted to support it in preliminary format and the Planning Board working group reviewed the language. It was a question of the timing and sequencing with the Finance Committee. The Planning Board is meeting next Wednesday to vote on the current iteration of Article 28.

Ms. Wollschlager noted that Mr. Fields sent a number of edits to Article 28 Motion C to her today, but she thought it's still not quite right, which she confirmed in consultation with the Planning Board. Therefore, she

recommended that we not reconsider Article 28 and leave it to the Planning Board to bring forward their motion to Town Meeting.

Article 2 – Fiscal 2022 Omnibus Budget

MOTION:

“Move that the Town vote to increase the appropriation voted by the 2021 Spring Annual Town Meeting under Article 7 for the following budgets by the sum of \$481,750, said sum to be distributed as follows:

- To supplement the Facilities Management budget as voted under Article 7 Motion G1 of the 2021 Spring Annual Town Meeting by adding \$150,000 to the Facilities Management expense repairs line;
- To supplement the Clerks Budget as voted under Article 7 Motion E of the 2021 Spring Annual Town Meeting by adding \$41,750 to the Clerks purchased services line; and,
- To supplement the Board of Selectmen Budget as voted under Article 7 Motion E of the 2021 Spring Annual Town Meeting by adding \$50,000 to the Recruitment and Hiring line.
- To supplement the Board of Selectmen Budget as voted under Article 7 Motion E of the 2021 Spring Annual Town Meeting by adding \$240,000 to the Select Board CBA Settlements Line.

With the above Appropriation be raised from following sources: Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2022 - **\$481,750**

Mr. John Townsend, Deputy Town Administrator – Finance. Article 2 seeks to add to the FY 22 budget in the areas identified in the motion and request your support. Mr. Townsend noted that Motion G1 is shared expenses (school and town) part of our budget. We request that town meeting appropriate \$150,000 to the facility management expense repairs line. Our new Facilities Management Director (Bill Spratt) has done a detailed review of all of our municipal and school buildings and his recommendation is that we need to put in place some maintenance contracts for our buildings and recommended that we budget \$150,000 for maintenance repair contracts that would cover such things such as water heaters, chillers, life safety systems, building management systems and other high dollar systems that both the schools and the town buildings have. The second item adds \$41,750 the Town Clerk purchased services line to cover the cost of the systems required for running virtual town meeting. The third item adds \$50,000 to the recruitment and hiring line for hiring a consultant to help organize the search for a new Fire Chief, as well as for the assessment center to assist the committee that will be participating in the hiring of our new Fire Chief. The final item adds \$240,000 to the Select board's CBA collective bargaining agreement settlements line as we are currently at the table with all of ten bargaining units on the town side. This will be added to the current balance in that budget of approximately \$100,000 and this total is sufficient to cover our initial financial offering that currently on the table. Mr. Townsend noted that these appropriations be raised from the FY 22 tax levy that is possible based on the new growth number that was certified by DOR and received by the town.

Ms. Wollschlager asked what the certified new growth number is. Mr. Townsend said DOR certified \$1,843,839. As you'll recall, from your review of the FY 22 budget, we had budgeted \$1,100,000 of new growth in FY 22, so this represents an additional \$743,839.

Mr. Evans noted that he realizes that what he will say is somewhat speculative, but it's a directional kind of question, and that is whether the town intends to add more money to the contract settlements line depending on what the certified free cash number is. Mr. Evans said his recollection was that this was one of the things that town administration is considering. Mr. Townsend said the \$340,000 will cover our current financial offer to the unions, but, we are just starting out our negotiations, so we can assume there will be some changes in that along the way. Mr. Townsend said there's a very good chance that in the spring, town administration we will also ask for some additional appropriation from Town Meeting from free cash to support those particular contract settlements.

Ms. Monahan asked Mr. Townsend what the breakdown within the contract settlements line are assigned to the different unions. Mr. Townsend said it's not actually broken down by union, but is a pot of money earmarked to fund the collective bargaining process. When we complete the collective bargaining process with the unions, we will submit the contracts to Town Meeting for their review, along with the appropriations required to be moved into the department budgets to support those particular contracts.

Ms. Wollschlager noted that there was \$1.8 million in new growth and there's \$1.1 million already allocated in spring, leaving a remainder of \$743,000 and this article uses \$481,750. There are several other articles that will use some funding from new growth and she asked how much will be left over that is not allocated. Mr. Townsend said the unallocated balance will be \$11,089 – the town has to keep a certain amount unallocated to cover any rounding issues associated with the tax levy and said that he would provide the breakdown on the new growth tax levy.

Public Comments

Mr. Frank Foss, Town Moderator, observed that this motion is inconsistent with the way Town Meeting has voted on these types of items previously and asked whether Town Counsel has reviewed and approved this. Mr. Foss noted that the intent of this motion is clear and understandable, but needs to be consistent with the motions that were approved by Town Meeting. He stated that the Committee could vote for the intent of this motion even though the motion language would likely change to be consistent with what was voted at Spring Annual Town Meeting. Ms. Wollschlager agreed that it will be a lot cleaner if the motion referred to the actual lines in the motion as opposed to the budget lines and noted that Town Counsel should review the language. Mr. Foss said these expenditures should go into either salaries or expenses.

Questions from the Committee

Mr. Coburn asked for confirmation that the Committee could vote on a motion that would endorse the intent but not the specific language of this motion, with the expectation that the language will be perfected. Ms. Wollschlager agreed that the Committee can vote the actual amounts since no one is debating the proposed amounts; just how the motion is worded.

Mr. Coburn moved to recommend Favorable Action on Article 2 with the intent of supporting the amount allocated and understanding that language in that motion may be perfected after consultation with Town Counsel, seconded by Mr. Coffey, voted 8 – 0 – 1

Roll-call vote:

Mr. Behery = yes	Ms. Monahan = yes
Mr. Coburn = yes	Mr. Pope = yes
Mr. Coffey = yes	Ms. Sciarra = yes
Mr. Evans = yes	Ms. Wollschlager = yes
Mr. Gillenwater = abstain	

Debate

Mr. Coburn said he is not wild about making a motion with so much qualification, but it's important for us to allocate this budget because, at this point, the Committee will not have another bite at the apple prior to Town Meeting. However, it's important that we be transparent and honest about whether we are endorsing specific language. We are endorsing the intent, but not the language.

Mr. Evans said he was opposed to wording this way because he thought it would be incredibly confusing to Town Meeting member to have something in the Recommendation Book that says the Committee voted to support the intent, but not the language of this motion.

Article 5: Stabilization Fund

Mr. Townsend said that town administration is seeking No Action on Article 5. Mr. Townsend said that, since the town does not have a certified free cash number, town administration plans not to fund any of the stabilization funds at this time a defer that funding until 2022 Spring Annual Town Meeting once free cash is certified.

Public Comments

Mr. Foss asked when town administration expects to have free cash certified. Mr. Townsend said that is not known and hoped that it would be available prior to Town Meeting , but will let the Committee know as it is certified.

Mr. Foss asked whether the filing for certified free cash had been made to the state. Mr. Townsend said that the submission to DOR had not been made yet for a couple of reasons. As you probably know, we have a new system with regards to revenue that we're still breaking in. We also have a Comptroller who is almost brand new, and still working through the records and she has been ill recently and lost a week or so just because of her health.

Questions from the Committee

Ms. Sciarra asked, if we received a certified free cash figure during Town Meeting, can a town meeting member make a motion to fund stabilization accounts or does it have to wait until 2022 Spring Annual Town Meeting?

Ms. Wollschlager said that could happen, but suggested that it may not matter if they plan to earmark some of the certified free cash to fund the stabilization accounts at 2022 Spring Annual Town Meeting. However, it's really up to town administration to decide what they want to do.

Mr. Coburn moved to recommend No Action, seconded by Mr. Evans, voted 8 – 1 – 0.

Roll-call vote:

Mr. Behery = yes	Ms. Monahan = yes
Mr. Coburn = yes	Mr. Pope = yes
Mr. Coffey = yes	Ms. Sciarra = no
Mr. Evans = yes	Ms. Wollschlager = yes
Mr. Gillenwater = yes	

Debate

Mr. Coburn said he is not in favor of the idea of cobbling something together quickly if free cash is certified prior to or during Town Meeting. Transferring money in and out of the stabilization funds ought to go through a full, considered, public process and we have that opportunity if we wait until spring.

Mr. Evans requested that, with the recommendation to postpone adding to the stabilization funds until 2022 Spring Annual Town Meeting, he'd like to see a memo of understanding that specifies the intended contributions to the stabilization fund using certified free cash. He said he is concerned that the availability of unallocated free cash is a tempting target as a grab bag for funding pet projects and is concerned that we know we need to replenish a stabilization accounts and have funding available for contract settlements, etc.

Ms. Wollschlager noted that the Committee heard the Town Administrator stated that the intent has been to replenish the stabilization funds from free cash. Hopefully, that would have been done this fall. But that looks unlikely. If the town somehow gets certified free cash quickly prior to the start of Town Meeting and town administration wants to put money in the stabilization funds, we will call a Finance Committee meeting to review their proposal, so we won't just let it go to the floor of Town Meeting.

Article 6: Operational/Rainy Day Stabilization Fund

Mr. Townsend requested No Action for the same reasons as with Article 5.

Public Comments

Mr. Foss asked whether town administration has closed out the books and is doing monthly reconciliations. Mr. Townsend said the prior fiscal year books are closed and have closed the books for July and are working on August currently.

Mr. Foss commented that, in the past, Natick had serious problems with reconciling its books in doing its monthly reconciliations due to, among other things, staffing issues. It concerns me when I hear the we don't have a certified free cash figure because the town has not filed it yet because it sounds like the situation we had in the past where the town was not reconciling its books in a timely manner and we were falling behind in our reporting. For example, one year we had a free cash figure of \$3 million and that certified free cash figure was \$9 million the following year because there was a mistake on the application and the auditors found that problem. Mr. Foss said he hoped that there are members of the Select Board on this call because this is a red flag to him.

Ms. Wollschlager asked Mr. Townsend if he wanted to respond. Mr. Townsend noted that before we get alarmed by this, the town usually close the books and files for free cash fairly late in September. Last year, it was September 30, but usually it's around September 20, so we're not overly late on this. Once again, given the fact we have a brand new Comptroller, I don't really find that this is not so extraordinary that we are a little late with regards to free cash. Further, the town doesn't have an immediate need to utilize the free cash in support of the Omnibus Budget. Mr. Townsend noted that town administration is being extra careful and making sure that, given the new Comptroller that everything is done accurately and properly and we do not want to take any shortcuts. So therefore, over the abundance of caution, perhaps, we are taking the time to be extra certain to ensure the accuracy. Mr. Townsend noted that this should not be construed as a red flag, and the town is starting its audit shortly.

Questions from the Committee

Ms. Sciarra asked how long after the books are close does the town need to file for certified free cash. Mr. Townsend said that the new Comptroller wants to make sure that when the town does file its balance sheet with DOR that it is accurate, so it can take a couple of weeks.

Mr. Evans moved to recommend No Action, seconded by Mr. Gillenwater, voted 8 – 1 – 0.

Roll-call vote:

Mr. Behery = yes	Ms. Monahan = yes
Mr. Coburn = yes	Mr. Pope = yes
Mr. Coffey = yes	Ms. Sciarra = no
Mr. Evans = yes	Ms. Wollschlager = yes
Mr. Gillenwater = yes	

Debate

Mr. Evans thanked Mr. Townsend for his candor because this has been a difficult year, as he has new financial software that is rolling out, a new Comptroller who needs to understand the processes the town does, and that Comptroller has had a recent illness, this has been more or less a perfect storm of things to hold this process back a little, I appreciate the points that the Moderator made and this is something to track. However, my sense is this is a transition problem and not a systemic problem.

Mr. Gillenwater agreed and added that as the Finance Committee representative on the Audit Advisory Committee, these are questions we track and I'm sure it'll come up at our next meeting and I'll report back if anything interesting is going on.

Ms. Sciarra noted that she doesn't think it's a transition problem, but is a system problem and it's something that I've run into with another town board when trying to get reports, so when we talk about the Comptroller being new, I just feel like that's not a fair statement that we're basically putting a lot of this on her. And I don't think that's fair. I think we have system problems that we need to be addressed.

Ms. Wollschlager said that Mr. Townsend and his staff get a pass for me this year, but noted she really doesn't think that the end of September should be our goal for our DOR submission. She stated that if he believes he doesn't have the resources or the ability to get the books closed earlier and the free cash submission done earlier, then this needs to be known during the budget process. She added that not having the certified free cash number makes it very difficult to have a Town Meeting. We're lucky because we don't need to use it this year, but we have needed it most years and advised him that he needs to work on the processes and procedures to determine if things need to be changed or resources need to be added.

Article 7: Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Appropriation or Transfer of Funds

Mr. Townsend said town administration requests No Action. The town has budgeted \$250,000 towards our OPEB obligations in the FY 22 budget.

Questions from the Committee

Ms. Wollschlager asked whether there have been discussions about using certified free cash to allocate more funding to the OPEB fund at Spring Annual Town Meeting or do you feel that \$250,000 is sufficient for FY 22? Mr. Townsend said that further funding of OPEB would be on the list to consider, but cautioned that there are other items coming in FY 23 that are very expensive, so we will need to evaluate how to best allocate our resources at that time.

Mr. Evans moved to recommend No Action, seconded by Mr. Gillenwater, voted 9 – 0 – 0.

Roll-call vote:

Mr. Behery = yes	Ms. Monahan = yes
Mr. Coburn = yes	Mr. Pope = yes
Mr. Coffey = yes	Ms. Sciarra = yes
Mr. Evans = yes	Ms. Wollschlager = yes
Mr. Gillenwater = yes	

Debate

Mr. Evans noted that this is a recurring theme of the evening and thank the Chair for asking the question about potentially adding money to this fund. He also reminded the Committee, in particular, our newer members that one of the actuarial goals is to fully fund the Pension Fund by 2030, and then start working down the OPEB liabilities, so it's on the radar, and that's why the \$250,000 was put in. Natick is like other municipalities who have to deal with OPEB and we should endeavor to put as much money as we can into it.

Mr. Gillenwater agreed with these goals.

Article 11 Capital Stabilization Fund.

Mr. Townsend stated that Town Administration seeks to appropriate \$240,000 from tax levy to supplement the Capital Stabilization Fund (CSF). The current balance in the Capital Stabilization Fund is \$1,766,662 and there are motions at Fall Annual Town Meeting that utilize \$850,000 and this would leave a projected balance of \$916,662. Town Administration feel it's prudent to add \$240,000 in order to provide more support to it.

Questions from the Committee

Mr. Coburn noted that this contribution typically bears some relation to the local option taxes that we collect and asked what the relationship is between this recommended amount and recent experience collecting the local option taxes. Mr. Townsend said he will provide that information to the Committee, but does not have it immediately at hand.

Mr. Coburn asked whether Town Administration is reasonably confident that this is less than the local option collections were in the last few years. Mr. Townsend said that, depending on the financial situation the town is in, they would look to supplement the CSF with free cash in the spring as a top priority.

Ms. Wollschlager asked whether it was fair to say that this number is essentially a plug-in to use the new growth tax levy constructively. Mr. Townsend said he wouldn't characterize it that way, noting that they want to build back all the stabilization funds. CSF is a fund that the town relies upon fairly heavily, so with the balance projected to go below a \$1 million, we want to add back the \$240,000 and some appropriation from free cash in the spring.

Public Comments

Mr. Foss asked what the amount of funding that was taken out of the CSF to offset any of the capital debt that we incurred through borrowing, as well as purchases and acquisitions in the capital plan. Mr. Townsend said Town Meeting appropriated \$1 million from the CSF that paid part of the debt service and this is something we are interested in continuing once we get the CSF balance back up to where we feel it needs to be.

Mr. Foss asked for clarification that if the town doesn't continue to put money in the CSF and you continue to offset the debt service that will ultimately reduce the CSF account to zero. Mr. Townsend that is true.

Mr. Foss asked whether, when the town supplemented the operational budget with \$5 to \$7 million in the prior year's budget, money came out of the CSF or out of the other two stabilization funds. Mr. Townsend said money came out of all three funds. The town used the CSF to pay off part of the debt service. And then the operations budget came out of the other two stabilization funds (operational fund, rainy day fund).

Mr. Coburn moved to recommend Favorable Action, seconded by Mr. Evans, voted 9 – 0 – 0.

Roll-call vote:

Mr. Behery = yes	Ms. Monahan = yes
Mr. Coburn = yes	Mr. Pope = yes
Mr. Coffey = yes	Ms. Sciarra = yes
Mr. Evans = yes	Ms. Wollschlager = yes
Mr. Gillenwater = yes	

Debate

Mr. Coburn said this is a little different because we do have a history of linking funding of the CSF to specific revenues. He said he understands that this contribution is somewhat limited by the unavailability of certifiable free cash at this time. And we've spoken with regard to some of the other reserves of the option, possibility and perhaps desirability of supplementing these votes later when free cash is certified.

Mr. Evans agreed with Mr. Coburn's comments, and added that this is a good down payment, knowing that more needs to be done. If we had the certified free cash number, we probably could be more generous and put more money into the CSF and might not need to use money from tax levy, but we don't have that luxury right now. He said that he sees this as a good use of the new growth tax levy to put that down payment into the CSF that we know we have to increase.

Ms. Wollschlager noted that, when we do get certified free cash, if it isn't allocated at Fall Town Meeting, we've heard from a lot of Committee members that there's interest in figuring out what the plan is. She indicated that she expects to receive a plan from the Town Administrator on this topic before we get to the budget review process next year.

Mr. Evans moved to close the public hearing on 2021 Fall Annual Town Meeting warrant articles, seconded by Mr. Gillenwater, voted 9 – 0 – 0.

Roll-call vote:

Mr. Behery = yes	Ms. Monahan = yes
Mr. Coburn = yes	Mr. Pope = yes
Mr. Coffey = yes	Ms. Sciarra = yes
Mr. Evans = yes	Ms. Wollschlager = yes
Mr. Gillenwater = yes	

Committee and Sub-Committee Scheduling

Ms. Wollschlager said there are no planned Committee or Subcommittee meetings planned before Town Meeting.

Mr. Coburn, as Finance Committee representative to the Charles River Dam Advisory Committee, noted that the advisory committee will be very busy in the coming months and committed to keeping the Chair informed of significant news and development from that advisory committee.

Ms. Wollschlager reminded members that, if they are interested in serving on the Fire Chief Screening Committee, to let her know by 9am tomorrow.

Ms. Wollschlager thanked the committee for the active participation at these meetings and noted that she is gratified that we were able to get them all done before 11 o'clock. And that's all due to all the preparation that everyone has done and not at the expense of thoroughness.

Mr. Evans moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Gillenwater, voted 8 – 0 – 0.

Roll-call vote:

Mr. Behery = yes	Ms. Monahan = yes
Mr. Coburn = yes	Mr. Pope = yes
Mr. Evans = yes	Ms. Sciarra = yes
Mr. Gillenwater = yes	Ms. Wollschlager = yes

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:34 PM