

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:

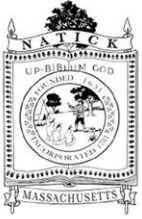
Town of Natick Finance Committee

Meeting Date: January 13, 2022

The minutes were approved through the following action:

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

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Wollschlager
Chair
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

DAY, DATE AND TIME

January 13, 2022 at 7:00 PM

PLACE OF MEETING

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7949362580>
Meeting ID: 794 936 2580
Passcode: 220129

One tap mobile
+19292056099,,7949362580# 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: January 11, 2022 12:14 PM

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
5. New Business
 - a. Finance Committee Retreat
 - i. Subcommittee assignments and responsibilities review
 - ii. Finance Committee Secretary position
 - iii. FATM 2021 session debrief
 - iv. January meeting topics
 - v. Spring meeting considerations (virtual or in-person meetings)
 - vi. SATM 2022 preview
 - b. Possible reconsideration of Article 28: Amend Zoning By-Laws: Cluster Bylaw Amendments
6. Committee Discussion (for items not on the agenda)
7. 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
Todd Gillenwater, Vice-Chair
David Krentzman, Member
Kat Monahan, Member
Richard Pope, Member
Chris Resmini, Member
Patti Sciarra, Member
Linda Wollschlager, Chair

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brett Conaway, Member
Cathy Coughlin, Member
Jeff DeLuca, Member
Phil Rooney, Member

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Linda Wollschlager, Chair.

Announcements – Ms. Wollschlager announced the appointment of two new Finance Committee members, David Krentzman and Brett Conaway. Our former secretary, Bruce Evans, is running for Select Board and therefore had to resign from the Finance Committee. The opening due to Mr. Evans' departure has been announced and interviews with the moderator are ongoing.

The Charles River Dam Committee has created a community survey to elicit residents' opinions about the dam. The Survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SNatickDamRec>

Mr. Coffey announced that the Fire Chief Screening Committee has hired a company to conduct the Assessment Center. The hope is to hire a new chief before the current chief retires in May.

Public Comments – None

Meeting Minutes – None

New Business – Finance Committee Retreat

Subcommittee assignments and responsibilities review

The committee discussed current subcommittee assignments. Mr. Gillenwater has agreed to chair the Education and Learning subcommittee and Ms. Wollschlager will take over his role as chair of the Planning & Governance subcommittee.

Finance Committee Secretary position

Ms. Wollschlager stated that we are looking for someone to fill the Finance Committee Secretary position. The committee once had a recording secretary, but Bruce Evans took over that role. To lessen the secretary duties, Pam St. Amand, who has produced Town Meeting minutes, has been hired to transcribe our meetings. The secretary would still need to create the minutes, but they can be very brief, as per other boards. The other role the secretary performs in to introduce articles at Town Meeting.

FATM 2021 session debrief

Ms. Monahan mentioned that it was difficult reviewing articles that were not final when they came to us in the fall, which included town-sponsored articles. She noted that it doesn't help Town Meeting when the Finance Committee hasn't seen the final text of an article. Ms. Wollschlager agreed that no one is well served when we don't hear the information first and hopes we can do a better job, given time constraints. At the request of Town Administration, we will be creating a Google calendar of our meetings.

Mr. Gillenwater stated that the Finance Committee Recommendation Book seemed to come together more smoothly. Ms. Wollschlager said the book creation process involves taking the meeting transcript and distilling it down. It's more of an editing job than a content creation job. Ms. Monahan viewed as taking the transcript and putting the story into it for Town Meeting.

Ms. Wollschlager said she was proud of not having late meetings. When she first joined the Finance Committee, meetings sometimes went until 1 am. She stated that it's been goal of hers to try to make sure that we don't have

protracted meetings. Mr. Coburn stated that this makes it easier to serve, easier to make the case to other good people around town to serve. He believes the committee is held in as high esteem as he's seen in a long time. Ms. Wollschlager noted that members came to meetings well-prepared and asked good questions. She stated that it's another objective of hers to distribute materials in advance so everyone has a chance to review. Mr. Gillenwater noted that the addition of the website has been well-received and is a step forward.

January meeting topics

The next Finance Committee meeting on January 25 will with be Town and School administrations to discuss budget drivers and the capital plan. New members will be given access to ClearGov. Ms. Sciarra asked if we ever look at the audit management letter and policies. Mr. Gillenwater stated that he is the Finance Committee's representation on the Audit Advisory board and he will be providing updates.

The Town Administrator has asked DLS (Division of Local Services) to conduct a financial management review, which they have done for other towns, including Holliston, see <https://www.mass.gov/financial-management-resource-bureau>. The review will start in April or May. The Town Administrator would like to receive questions from our committee and subcommittees as far in advance as possible. The chair asked for any ideas on how to make the process of submitting questions better.

Spring meeting considerations (virtual or in-person meetings)

January meeting will be virtual. Some conference rooms in Town Hall will have hybrid meeting capability, advance notice is required. Each subcommittee chair can decide how to they would like to meet. At some point, we will be back to in person meetings, but we will discuss this as a committee first.

SATM 2022 preview

The warrant closes on Thursday, February 24. We will not be hearing any articles until March, after the warrant is approved by the Select Board. Hard copies of the budget will be available and can be picked up at Town Hall or we can arrange to have it delivered.

Committee Discussion – None

Mr. Coburn moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Sciarra, voted 10 – 0 – 0.

Roll-call vote:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:49 PM