

Finance Committee Meeting October 19, 2021 Bird Middle School Media Center

Present:

Finance Committee

Roll Call 13 in attendance:

Mark Trudell	Steve Hendricks
Dennis Crowley (arrived late)	Jean Kenney
Josette Burke	Alice Susan Lawson
Andrew Flowers	Douglas Shea
Jeff Fisher	Mark Sullivan (arrived late)
Kathleen Foley Greulich	Lisa Van der Linden
Allyson Hamilton	

Absent: Lawrence Pitman, Lucy Romanowiz

Additional attendees:

Jim Johnson	Rick Mattson
Nancy Dayian	Joseph Moraski

Motion by Alice Susan Lawson and seconded by Josette Burke to open the Public Hearing at 6:00pm
The motion passed 11-0-0

Discussion of Fall Town Meeting Articles

Mark Trudell read through Articles 1-17 of the Town Meeting Warrant and allowed for questions and comments from the audience of Walpole residents.

Article 2: FY22 Budget.

Question from Joseph Moraski on whether the amount of new growth has been certified by the Town Accountant. Town Administrator Jim Johnson informed Mr. Moraski that the amount of New Growth has not yet been certified, but Free Cash has.

Article 6: Capital Infrastructure

Playground Equipment: Question from Joseph Moraski as to where the specific numbers regarding the proposed playground equipment purchase come from. DPW Director Rick Mattson clarified that the proposal is still only preliminary, but a schematic of the plans can be provided at a later date. Mr. Moraski expressed a desire for more concrete details in the future.

Parking: Request from Joseph Moraski for more student parking to be available at Walpole High School to reduce occurrences of students parking in nearby parking lots of the police station and senior center, preventing others from being able to find adequate parking.

June Street: Request from Nancy Dayian for more details on the proposed drainage and roadway improvements on June Street. Rick Mattson informed her that the exact details have not been determined at this time.

Article 7: Capital Equipment Purchases

REAL Equity and Diversity Training: Comment from Joseph Moraski that funding for online training is not really a Capital Equipment Purchase and should have been included in Article 2 instead.

Article 14: Middle School Project Debt Exclusion

Question from Joseph Moraski regarding the meaning of “premium bonds.” The committee explained that bonds are sold at higher than face value and that the premium covers the cost of borrowing and lowers the amount of money borrowed.

Motion by Josette Burke and seconded by Alice Susan Lawson to close the Public Hearing

The motion passed 13-0-0

Motion by Alice Susan Lawson and seconded by Andrew Flowers reconsider Article 16, regarding changing the designation of the fields on Route 1A from “Rural” to “Parks and Recreation.”

The motion passed 12-1-0 (Jeffrey Fisher no)

Mark Sullivan stated that the office of the Town Assessor informed him that there is no real advantage or disadvantage to re-classifying fields, so he feels comfortable approving the article.

Motion by Andrew Flowers and seconded by Alice Susan Lawson for **favorable action on Article 16**

The motion passed 12-1-0 (Jeffrey Fisher no)

Adjournment

Motion by Dennis Crowley and seconded by Alice Susan Lawson to adjourn

The motion passed 13-0-0

The Finance Committee adjourned at 6:45pm.