

**Town of Andover
Board of Finance**
Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.
Location: virtual Zoom meeting
Special Meeting Minutes

ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING

1. Call to Order

Chair Marc Brinker called the Special Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Members: Chair Marc Brinker, Vice Chair Diane Choquette, Rob England, Louise Goodwin, Curt Dowling, David Hewett, Linda Fish

Board of Selectmen: First Selectman Jeff Maguire, Vice Adrian Mandeville, Scott Person, Jeff Murray

Town Administrator: Eric Anderson

Administrative Assistant/Board Clerk: Amanda Gibson

CVC Representative: Nick Lavigne

Town Treasurer: Barbara Griffin

AES Financial Operations: Laura Edwards

Public Present: Mike Palazzi, Cathy Palazzi, Wally Barton, Anne Crème, Gerry Crème, Richelle Strimple, Dianne Grenier, Katie Marino, Steven Nakos, Don Keener, Joanne Hebert, Melissa Loteczka, Steve Motyl, Jim Hallisey, Kim Bednar, Philip DeFazio, Sampson, Paul, Chris, Pat, numerous other unnamed participants.

Chair Marc Brinker welcomed everyone and provided an overview of the meeting agenda and goals. Announced that the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Town Budget will be voted on at the Board of Finance Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 27th at 7:00 P.M. The virtual meeting call-in directions will be available on the meeting agenda. Shared that the RHAM budget has been voted on by the RHAM Board of Education.

2. Budget Overview and Presentation

Presented by Town Administrator Eric Anderson. Presentation is available on the town website.

3. Public Speak (Question and Answer Format)

Mike Palazzi: Inquired where the Conservation Commission funds were placed on the budget.

Wally Barton: Expressed gratitude to the boards for dealing with this once in a lifetime pandemic issue.

Shannon Loudon: Thanked the boards for all of their hard work.

First Selectman Jeff Maguire: Thanked Chair Marc Brinker for hosting great meetings. Thanked Town Administrator Eric Anderson and Administrative Assistant Amanda Gibson for all their hard work.

Vice Selectman Adrian Mandeville: Suggested for the Board of Finance to not utilize the fund balance in order to artificially lower the mil rate. Requested for the town residents to participate in RHAM Board of Education meetings in the future.

Scott Person: Thanked Chair Marc Brinker for hosting great meetings. Thanked Town Administrator Eric Anderson, Administrative Assistant Amanda Gibson and all of the Board of Finance members for their hard work.

Jeff Murray: Expressed gratitude for the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance and Board of Education for successful communication this year.

4. Discuss and act upon the FY 2020-21 Town Budget

Rob England: Shared that he believes the budget should move forward as it is currently proposed.

Adrian Mandeville: Announced that the town is currently looking at software transition and auditor contract costs. Boards to coordinate meetings with the Board of Education to sort out.

David Hewett: Reiterated Adrian Mandeville's suggestion to not utilize the fund balance to offset costs as it will place the town in an unfortunate financial position.

Eric Anderson: Announced that the town maintains roughly a 10% emergency fund, handling only a small level of tax delinquencies.

Eric Anderson: Addressed the request of \$5k for physicals from the Andover Volunteer Fire Department.

Marc Brinker: Agrees that it is a necessary and appropriate request.

Curt Dowling: Concurs regarding the fund balance.

Diane Choquette: Concurs regarding the fund balance.

Marc Brinker: Concurs regarding the fund balance.

5. Public Speak

Amanda Gibson: Shared that the Conservation Commission funds of \$665 are in the 0815 line item.

Shannon Loudon: As Chair of the Andover Elementary School Board of Education, she thanked the Board of Finance, Eric Anderson and Amanda Gibson for all they do for the town and supporting AES.

Steven Nakos: Excellent meeting.

Joanne Hebert: Questioned if it is possible for AES to use \$30k leftover funds for town's financial software upgrade.

Pat: Shared that they believe this is best our town can do not knowing what the future holds.

Jeff Maguire: Shared that the Board of Finance has done a very good job with the process and budget this year.

Amanda Gibson: Thanked the boards for the transparency and hard work throughout the entire budget process. Announced that all materials regarding the proposed budget are located on the town website for residents to view.

Marc Brinker: Announced that the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen will continue to gather public feedback. Requested for residents to send thoughts and ideas through the town budget feedback website. Announced that the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Town Budget will be voted on at the Board of Finance Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 27th at 7:00 P.M. The virtual meeting call-in directions will be available on the meeting agenda.

6. Adjournment

Louise Goodwin MOVED to adjourn the Special Meeting.

Rob England SECONDED

MOTION CARRIED 7:0:0

Chair Marc Brinker adjourned the Special Meeting at 7:58 P.M.

***Please visit our town website at www.andoverct.org for upcoming VIRTUAL meetings with instructions on how to join. The following boards/commission Zoom Video Recordings are posted to the NEW Town of Andover, CT YouTube Channel: Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, Board of Assessment Appeals, Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals.**

Like our www.facebook.com/townofandoverct page for community updates!

Helpfully submitted by the Board Clerk/Administrative Assistant, Amanda Gibson. *Amanda Gibson*

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.