



## Town of Medway

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

155 Village Street  
Medway MA 02053

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Wednesday, April 14, 2021 – 7:00 PM  
Sanford Hall, Town Hall  
155 Village Street

Present in person: Todd Alessandri, Chair; Frank Rossi, Vice Chair; Jeff O'Neill.

Participating Remotely: Ellen Hillery, Clerk; Brian Cowan; Will Lane; Michael Schrader; Sue Segarra; Jim Sullivan.

Staff in person: Michael Boynton, Town Manager; Carol Pratt, Finance Director; Lt. William Kingsbury, Medway Police Department.

Staff Participating Remotely: Allison Potter, Assistant Town Manager; Donna Greenwood, Principal Assessor; Beth Hallal, Health Agent; Courtney Riley, Director, Council on Aging; Julie Harrington, Director; Parks and Recreation; Bridget Graziano, Conservation Agent; Margaret Perkins, Director, Medway Public Library; Lt. Matt Reardon, Medway Police Department; Jim Mee, Building Commissioner; Sandy Johnson, Director of Communications; Stefany Ohannesian, Town Clerk.

Others Participating Remotely: Dennis Crowley, Select Board.

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#### Public Hearing

At 7:00 PM Chairman Alessandri reported that three members were present in the meeting room, and six members were participating remotely via teleconferencing. It was noted that all votes will be by roll call as is customary with remote participation. At this time, he asked for a motion to open a public hearing.

**Mr. Rossi made a motion to convene a public hearing for the purpose of hearing public comment relative to the May 10, 2021 Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

There were no questions or comments from those in the meeting room or those accessing the meeting via remote participation.

There being no public comment, **Mr. Rossi made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:03 PM; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

Call to Order – Regular Finance Committee Meeting

At 7:03 PM Chairman Alessandri called the regular committee meeting to order with three members in the meeting room and six participating remotely. He shared the items on tonight's agenda. It was reiterated that all votes will be by roll call as is customary with remote participation.

Mr. Boynton announced that most of the department heads had joined the meeting remotely in case there were questions on any articles. Chairman Alessandri polled committee members for any questions.

Regarding the Citizens' Petition article (Article 31), Chairman Alessandri asked what the Select Board was doing on that one. Mr. Boynton responded that there is a public hearing with the Planning and Economic Development Board on April 27 and that Board will make a recommendation to the Select Board who, in turn, will make a recommendation as will the Finance Committee. Ms. Affleck-Childs added that the Planning Board may be ready to make its recommendation the night of the public hearing after the hearing closes.

Acknowledging that the proposed FY22 budget is a fairly level-service budget, Chairman Alessandri asked if there is a big concern or risk area that should be watched. Mr. Boynton responded that things are in good shape overall. Some areas to keep an eye on would be the full-year utility cost at the new DPW facility as well as two new positions coming forward which increases personnel costs (Parks Department) and one for maintaining cemeteries. Aside from those, Information Services may be impacted as it is unknown how COVID-19 will continue to affect education and municipal staff.

At this time, Chairman Alessandri thanked the Town Manager and all the department heads for their hard work on bringing the budget forward and subsequent preparations for Town Meeting.

Vote Finance Committee Recommendations on Annual Town Meeting & Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles

*The committee reviewed both Warrants. It is noted that several articles were deleted from the Annual Town Meeting Warrant and remaining articles were subsequently renumbered.*

Present: Michael Boynton, Town Manager; Carol Pratt, Finance Director.

Special Town Meeting

Article 1: Free Cash Transfer: Snow and Ice Deficit – It was noted that the final dollar amount would be in the motion as snow is anticipated in the next few days. **Mr. Rossi made a motion to recommend a TBD (To Be Determined) designation on Article 1; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

Article 2: Prior Year Bills – **Mr. Rossi made a motion to recommend approval of Article 2; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

Article 3: Transfer from Overlay to Capital Stabilization – Following a brief explanation from the Town Manager on how the overlay works, **Mr. Rossi made a motion to recommend approval of Article 3; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

Article 4: Free Cash Transfer to Capital Stabilization – **Mr. Rossi made a motion to recommend approval of Article 4; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

Article 5: Free Cash Transfer to General Stabilization -- **Mr. Rossi made a motion to recommend approval of Article 5; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

Article 6: Adjustment: Community Preservation Fund Statutory Set-Aside -- **Mr. Rossi made a motion to recommend approval of Article 6; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

Article 7: Repurpose Monetary Article—Fire Dept. Items, School Paving Projects – **Mr. Rossi made a motion to recommend approval of Article 7; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

Article 8: Repurpose Monetary Articles – Transfer to Capital Stabilization – **Mr. Rossi made a motion to recommend approval of Article 8; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

#### Annual Town Meeting

In order to expedite this process, Chairman Alessandri suggested that the articles be briefly reviewed and if anyone had questions, they should indicate a “hold”. All articles without “holds” could be voted in a single motion instead of separate motions.

There was discussion on the following “holds”:

Article 3: Appropriation: FY22 Operating Budget – Ms. Pratt briefly reviewed the updated figures which impacted the final budget figure relative to collective bargaining agreements, DPW (stormwater), and the Animal Control agreement with Millis. It was noted that any adjustments relative to salary came from the Salary Reserve Fund.

Article 9: Borrowing: Parks Projects – Mr. Rossi expressed concern that the original courts were not done properly, and how do we know that these courts will be? Mr. Boynton responded that the courts were done 20 years ago with some repair of cracks in recent years. There are also drainage issues which can be corrected. New asphalt will be used, not reclaimed. Discussion followed during which it was noted that the motion will identify the funding sources.

Article 31: Citizens Petition: Battery Storage Moratorium – Mr. O'Neill asked if this article adequately covers what it is intended to do. Mr. Boynton responded that this particular action is

something that can be revisited, and Town Meeting can always rescind it. This stops the establishment of these facilities with a one-year moratorium. There would still be a permit-granting process following the moratorium. During the moratorium, key players and town staff will look at all factors impacting these facilities via community forums and other methods. There is a general belief at the state level that the energy gathered has to be turned back into the grid.

At this time, **Mr. Rossi made a motion to recommend approval of Articles 1 through 30 of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant as presented:**

Article 1: Debt Stabilization Fund Transfer

Article 2: Transfer from Ambulance Receipts to General Fund

Article 3: Appropriation: FY22 Operating Budget

Article 4: Appropriation: FY22 Water Enterprise Fund

Article 5: Appropriation: FY22 Sewer Enterprise Fund

Article 6: Appropriation: FY22 Solid Waste Enterprise Fund

Article 7: Free Cash Appropriation: Capital and Other Items

Article 8: Free cash Transfer to Street Acceptance Account

Article 9: Fund Parks Projects, Inc. Possible CPA Funds

Article 10: Raise & Appropriate: Roads & Sidewalks

Article 11: Free Cash Transfer: Town and School Building Repair and Maintenance

Article 12: Borrowing: Urban Renewal Plan Implementation

Article 13: Water Retained Earnings Transfer: Purchase Vehicle and Provide Grant Funds

Article 14: Appropriation: General Stabilization

Article 15: Appropriation: OPEB Trust.

Article 16: Appropriation: Medway Day

Article 17: Appropriation: Community Preservation Committee

Article 18: Revolving Funds – Authorize FY22 Spending Limits

Article 19: Amend General Bylaws – Stormwater

Article 20: Amend Zoning Bylaws: Central Business District

Article 21: Amend Zoning Bylaws: Site Plan Review

Article 22: Amend Zoning Bylaws: Solar Electric Installations

Article 23: Amend Zoning Bylaws: Flood Plain

Article 24: Amend Zoning Bylaws: Nonconforming Structures

Article 25: Amend Zoning Bylaws: Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Article 26: Amend Zoning Bylaws: Accessory Family Dwelling Units

Article 27: Amend Zoning Bylaws: Housekeeping

Article 28: Accept Access Easement to Conservation Restriction Parcel

Article 29: Charter Amendment – Selectmen to Select Board

Article 30: Acquire Real Property: Evergreen Cemetery

**Mr. O'Neill seconded the motion. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

**Mr. Rossi made a motion to recommend a TBD (To Be Determined) designation on Article 31 (Citizens' Petition: Battery Storage Moratorium) of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

### MISCELLANEOUS

Chairman Alessandri thanked committee members for getting their reports in on time. He added that he appreciates everyone's hard work.

There were no other reports.

### OTHER BUSINESS

#### Designate Finance Committee Representative for the Facilities Planning Study Committee

Mr. Boynton explained that he anticipates a monthly meeting schedule initially, noting that meetings would likely become more frequent in time. He noted that it is a long-term issue and there will be a lot of discussions. During the pandemic, holding large community forums is difficult, if not impossible. There is plenty of work to be done and there is no rush. One concern is that costs will continue to rise. Brief discussion followed.

Chairman Alessandri reported that Mr. Cowan had expressed interest. No other members indicated interest.

**Mr. Rossi made a motion to nominate Brian Cowan as the Finance Committee representative to the Facilities Planning Study Committee; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

#### Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes

*The committee reviewed draft minutes from March 24, 2021.*

**Mr. Rossi made a motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2021 as amended; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next meeting will be at 6:30 PM on Monday, May 10, just before Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting.

### ADJOURN

**At 8:33 PM Mr. Rossi made a motion to adjourn; Mr. O'Neill seconded. No discussion. ROLL CALL VOTE: 9-0-0 (Alessandri, aye; Cowan, aye; Hillery, aye; Lane, aye; O'Neill, aye; Rossi, aye; Schrader, aye; Segarra, aye; Sullivan, aye).**

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jeanette Galliardt*