

FINCOM MEETING MINUTES
ZOOM MEETING
Town of Heath
April 27, 2021

18:05: Meeting Called to Order by chair

Members attending: Ned, Jan, Will, and Ken

Minutes for Apr. 6, 2021 were discussed as per Hilma's guidance due to Open Meeting Law complaint. The note at the end was removed and any voted items had to be revoted. A review of the item requiring a revote: Ken pointed out that the COLA for Social Security is 1.3% and that a 2% town employee COLA increase places an unfair burden on senior citizens dependent on Social Security. He proposed a COLA of 1.5% along with the minimum wage adjustment of 0.56%, resulting in an overall wage increase of 2.06%. Ken made a motion recommending this COLA and wage adjustment, seconded by Will. Vote was unanimous.

Ned informed the committee to expect a \$15,000 place holder for Article III, line 110, Special Projects when we join the BOS to review the current edition.

18:12 the FinCom joined the BOS meeting. Discussion was on special projects and prioritizing those to be done in FY 22. Article III changes were also discussed. The FinCom recommended to fund line 38, Heath Schl Blding- Maint./Utilities, at \$30,000 but the Selectboard decided to fund it with \$40,000. It was decided to put a hold on the Salt Shed and just do the necessary repairs. Articles on the Warrant were reviewed and Articles 9, 11, 15, and 18 were identified as the FinCom needing to vote on making a recommendation.

19:36 the FinCom left the BOS meeting and resumed their own meeting. Ned attempted to call Alice to discuss the Open Meeting Law complaint, but got only an answering machine. Will made a motion to accept the 4-6-2021 minutes with the note at the end removed, and it was seconded by Jan. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Warrant Articles:

1. Article III: Ned made a motion for the FinCom to recommend 'in part' due to line item 38, Heath School Build. – Maint/Utilities, being funded by \$10,000 more than the FinCom's recommendation. Motion seconded by Ken. Vote was unanimous. Note: the FinCom's point of view is the School Building Revolving Fund could be used in the event of an emergency instead of taxation.
2. Article #9: Ned made a motion to recommend, seconded by Ken. Vote unanimous in favor.

3. Article #11: Ned made the motion to recommend, seconded by Will. Vote unanimous in favor.
4. Article #15: Ned made the motion to recommend, seconded by Jan. Vote unanimous in favor.
5. Article #18: Will made the motion to recommend, seconded by Ned. Vote unanimous in favor.

Ned discussed composing a handout for the ATM explaining the tax levy estimate and tax trend. He will send out a draft copy prior to the next meeting.

The Committee reviewed the handout for the Open Meeting Law complaint for (4-8-2021), the response from Ned to Alice. There were a couple of recommended additions to the response by the Committee of how the violation was rectified. Ned made a motion to accept the complaint response with the added recommendations, seconded by Ken. Vote was unanimous in favor.

20:50: Motion to Adjourn was made by Ken and seconded by Will. Vote was unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken