

Minutes of the Heath Finance Committee
August 5, 2025 at 5 pm
Jacobs Road Municipal Building

Present: Dena Briggs (Chair), Alice Wozniak, Bob McGahan, Wendy Whalen, and Ned Wolf

Dena called the meeting to order at 5:09.

Members read the minutes of the June 17 FinCom meeting. Dena moved that the minutes be approved with Alice's name removed from the list of attendees. Wendy seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 ayes and 1 abstain.

2025 CAF2 Distribution

We recalled that at the May 10 ATM voters raised and appropriated \$100,000 to pay to the principal for the broadband loan. Hilma has asked us which of the following ways we recommend using Heath's 2025 CAF 2 distribution of \$58,408.05 that the town received in January:

1. Raise and appropriate \$100,000 and make the payment in that amount.
2. Raise and appropriate \$100,000, add the CAF2 amount of \$58,408.05 to that for a total payment of \$158,408.05.
3. Make a \$100,000 payment by using the CAF2 amount and raise and appropriate the difference of \$41,591.95.
4. Some combination of using part of the CAF2 money and leaving the rest in account.

The FinCom recommends option 2.

Action Taken *Alice moved that the \$58,408.05 CAF2 distribution be added to the \$100,000 that was raised and appropriated at the 2025 ATM to pay down the principal of the broadband loan. Dena seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.*

Increase in Town's Health Insurance

The Hampshire Group Trust has announced an increase of 20% effective Oct. 1. This is due to the higher costs of certain specialty treatments and drugs. Alice suggested, and members agreed to recommend that the amount budgeted for health insurance next year be enough to cover the current employees as well as one individual and one family plan.

Late Bus Survey

The FinCom favors gathering more data on the late bus. We might ask Mary for information to send out a survey.

Sustainability Study for Mohawk and Hawlemont

The FinCom anticipates continued discussion next year of the options coming out of the sustainability and efficiency study of the Mohawk Trail and Hawlemont school districts. Ned volunteered to phone Ken Roche to ask for his thoughts on the options.

FinCom Joins Select Board Meeting

Dena reported that the FinCom favors option 2 for using the 2025 CAF2 distribution. The Select Board voted to approve option 2.

On health insurance Hilma said that the town covers 6 plans for employees who work more than 20 hours a week. She will check with the treasurer about the additional cost of one plan for an individual and one family plan.

Dena asked whether a survey of parents regarding the late bus could be sent out.

The FinCom left the Select Board meeting. Alice moved that the FinCom meeting be adjourned at 6:30. Wendy seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Wolf