

*Westwood Finance and Warrant Commission  
September Meeting  
Tuesday, September 15, 2020  
Remote Meeting - ZOOM Webinar  
7:30 PM  
Meeting Minutes*

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Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12 2020 Order suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law MGL C. 30A Sec. 18 and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this public hearing of the Finance and Warrant Commission of Westwood, MA is being conducted largely by remote participation and we are not allowing in-person attendance by members of the public. Further, we have attempted to create at least 6 feet of space between all in physical attendance. The public is encouraged to join our meeting and participate fully. Members of the public attending this meeting virtually will be allowed to make comments if they wish to do so during the portions of the hearing designated for public comment. You will be queued up by the system operator and prompted when it is your turn to speak. The Chair will continue to give guidance and instructions as needed.

**JOIN ZOOM MEETING:**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82155315138?pwd=TmNzb2szRWkzSVNRV1VUZURweWtVUT09>

Passcode: 789879

877 853 5257 (Toll Free) or 888 475 4499 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 821 5531 5138

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FinCom Chair Peter Lentz called the meeting to order at 7:30PM.

All Finance and Warrant Commission members present.

The Chair then granted permission to Westwood Media Center to live stream and record the meeting. He asked if anyone else would like to record the meeting.

Chair Lentz made introductory comments and welcomed all participants including remote members, presenters and members of public and press to the September FinCom meeting. Ms. O'Donnell then called the ROLL.

The Chair then led members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

An update on recent Select Board meetings, including the Fall Town Meeting decision was given by the Chair. He committed to continue to attend those meetings/or review on WMC in order to keep FinCom members up-to-date. He encouraged members to do the same whenever possible.

Next the FinCom 2020/21DRAFT schedule was presented to the board. The fall schedule was adopted by the Commission.

The Chair then gave an update on the Moderator's progress on appointing the 3 new members needed to fill the vacancies. He promised to continue to encourage the Moderator to appoint as soon as possible.

The Chair then turned to discussion of topics of interest, concerns, priorities for the fall meetings schedule.

Some topics include:

How is money actually spent once the Select Board approves it?

Budget process: particularly how property tax relief can be achieved to a greater extent.

How can we get updates on spending status of capital?

Request for the School Building Committee to attend to explain in detail cost/process/over-ride proposal

Longterm financial effects of COVID:

-how much have we received from state and feds so far & how much do we expect to receive

-ongoing costs for the town immediate & potential future

-what has the town done to date to assist residents

-specific details on changes to buildings, employees, how we do business

-implication on election

What can we expect for 2021 Annual Town meeting regarding new school project

The warrant articles that were not voted on in the spring, override cost-where do they stand

Mentor Program for new members in preparation for ATM

Chair Lentz then discussed members previously requested individual interests for this year's Sub-Com assignments. The Chair will continue to consider and have final details of the assignments ready for a future meeting.

Ms. O'Donnell checked in with members for final changes on Contact information. She will forward to members after any final changes have been made.

Members then voted to approve the June meeting minutes. The minutes were approved via ROLL CALL vote with 11 members in favor and one abstention.

The Chair then took a moment to honor the work of the 3 members who stepped down after the June 2020 Annual Town Meeting. He congratulated Cindy Buckley, Howard Messing and former Chair Barb Delisle. Ms. Delisle joined the meeting briefly to accept a small token of the board's appreciation for her long years of service culminating with her work last year as Chair.

Chair Lentz thanked members for attending and for their excellent participation. He then asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was offered and seconded. A ROLL CALL vote was taken.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:31PM**