

AGENDA

FINANCE AND WARRANT COMMISSION

March 2022 First Public Hearing

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

(Continued to Wednesday, March 2, 2022 if needed)

ZOOM WEBINAR

6:00 P.M.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, On June 16, 2021, Governor Baker signed into law an Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted during the State of Emergency. This Act includes an extension, until April 1, 2022, of the remote meeting provisions of his March 12, 2020, Executive Order. This meeting will be conducted via remote means. Members of the public who wish to access the meeting may do so by using the Webinar link below. Every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts, we will post on the Town website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

The meeting will be live streamed by Westwood Media Center and the public can view the meeting there. Our government channels will be broadcasting the meeting on Comcast channel 12 and Verizon channel 42.

The public is encouraged to watch our meeting via Westwood Media Center live stream and join via Zoom webinar as instructed below. The public will be allowed to make comments, if they wish to do so, during the portions of the meeting designated for public comment.

JOIN ZOOM MEETING:

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Mar 1, 2022 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Finance and Warrant Commission Public Hearing

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87095654542?pwd=Q0NJamdDd2V0RlJQbSt5Ymw0ZmJKUT09>

Passcode: 843484

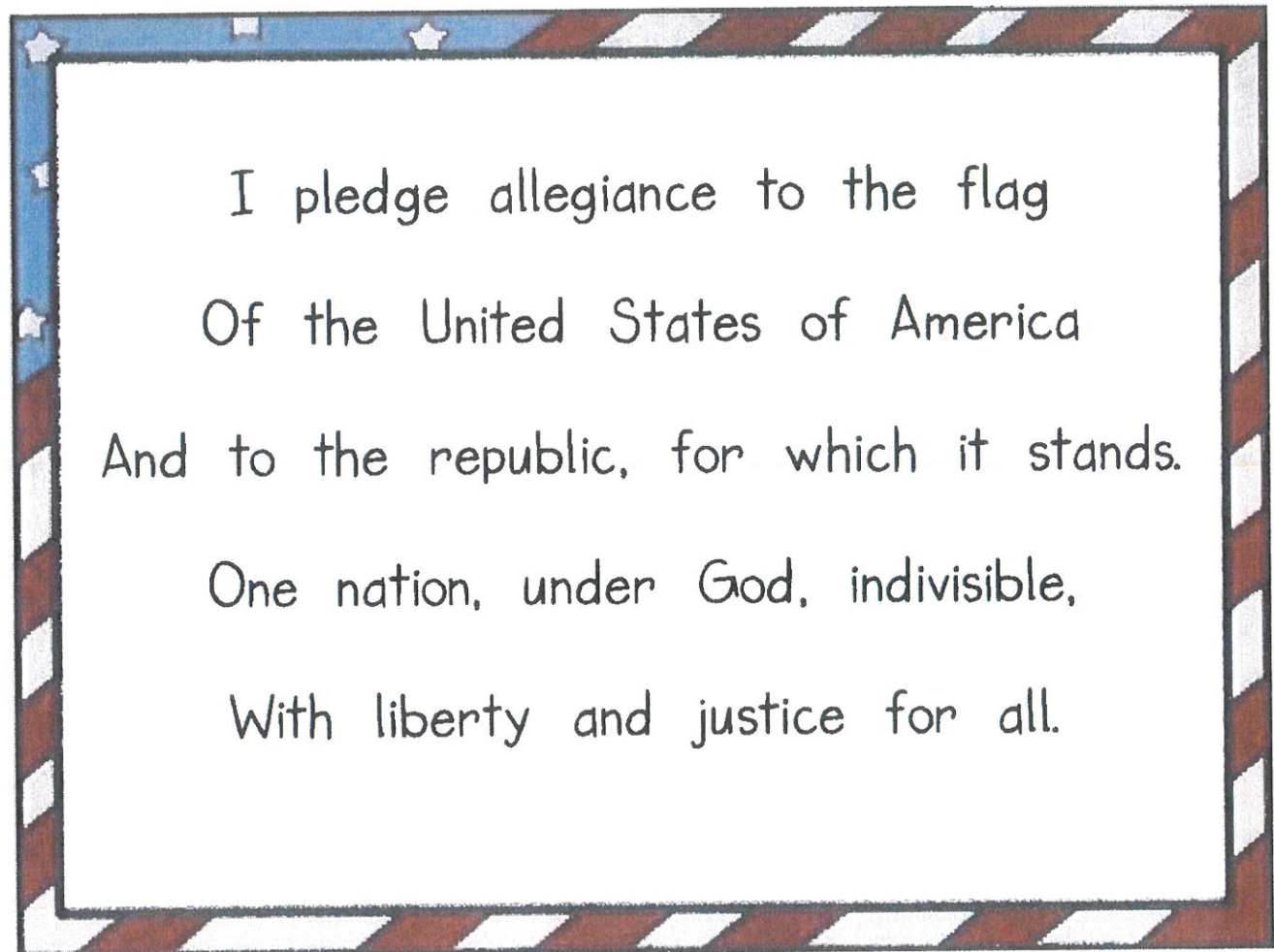
Or Telephone:

853 5257 (Toll Free) or 888 475 4499 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0276 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 870 9565 4542

<https://youtu.be/Z9I3rtueyaM>

Topic:	Responsible:	Time:
Meeting Opening: - Call to Order. Grant Permission to Westwood Media Center to live stream and record the meeting. Ask if anyone else would like to record. <u>Chair:</u> Introductory Comments and Welcome to all participants including remote members, presenters and members of public and press. Instructions for remote participation.	Chair	5 Minutes
Announce Members Remote Participation with Member Roll-Call.	Jane	2 Minutes
Pledge of Allegiance.	All	
Peter Ittig, Resident 108 Bay Colony Drive	Citizens Petition Articles on Senior Property Tax Exemptions (1&2)	10 Minutes
MEMBERS QUESTIONS/FEEDBACK	Chair	10 Minutes
Questions from Public and Press	Chair	10 Minutes
Chris Coleman – Town Administrator, Pam Dukeman – Assistant Town Administrator/Finance Director, Mike Walsh-Chair and members of Select Board, Patrick Ahearn - Town Counsel	Select Board 2022 ATM Warrant Articles	10 Minutes
MEMBERS QUESTIONS/FEEDBACK	Chair	10 Minutes
Questions from Public and Press	Chair	10 Minutes
Abby McCabe – Town Planner, Chris Pfaff – Planning Board Chair and members of the Planning Board	Planning Board 2022 ATM Warrant Articles Continue PB Public Hearing	30 Minutes
MEMBERS QUESTIONS/FEEDBACK	Chair	15 Minutes
Questions from Public and Press	Chair	15 Minutes
Other: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Business –. • Old Business – Approval of February 2022 Meeting Minutes • Public and Press -. • Adjournment - with Member Roll-Call. 	All MAKE A DECISION ON 3/2/22 SECOND NIGHT FOR PH	15 Minutes



I pledge allegiance to the flag
Of the United States of America
And to the republic, for which it stands.
One nation, under God, indivisible,
With liberty and justice for all.

Property Tax Rate Comparisons FY2022
per \$1000 assessed valuation (mill rate)

Municipality	Fiscal Year	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Personal Property
Norwood	2022	\$10.75	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$24.00
Boston	2022	10.88	24.98	24.98	24.98
Wellesley	2022	11.68	11.68	11.68	11.68
Needham	2022	13.37	26.43	26.43	26.43
Westwood	2022	14.83	28.99	28.99	28.99

By P. Ittig, February 2022

Source: Mass. DoR

The rates shown are for FY2022 **before** the Hanlon override voted October 2021.

Property Tax Revenue Source % FY2022

Municipality	Fiscal Year	Residential	Commercial	Industrial	Personal Property
Wellesley	2022	87.4%	11.4%	0.05%	1.2%
Needham	2022	76.8	15.3	1.9	6.0
Westwood	2022	73.4	18.6	3.9	4.1

Source: Mass. DoR

P. Ittig, February 2022

Wellesley and Needham rely **more heavily on Residential property** taxes than Westwood **and less on Commercial/Industrial property**.

History of Tax Levy – Budget FY2023

Tax Levy Calculation	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	Budget FY2023	
Prior Year Levy Limit	\$73,558,364	\$76,623,854	\$79,703,916	\$83,076,625	\$86,718,329	
Plus 2.5% Increase	\$1,838,959	\$1,915,596	\$1,992,598	\$2,076,916	\$2,167,958	Plus 2.5%
Plus New Growth**	\$950,531	\$661,466	\$889,111	\$1,356,788	\$450,000	New growth
New Tax Levy - University Station	\$276,000	\$503,000	\$491,000	\$208,000	\$100,000	Uni Station growth
General Overrides	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	General Override
Tax Levy Limit	\$76,623,854	\$79,703,916	\$83,076,625	\$86,718,329	\$89,436,287	
Exempt Debt*	\$1,429,505	\$1,320,986	\$1,217,416	\$1,048,819	\$951,876	Exempt Debt
Levy Capacity	\$78,053,359	\$81,024,902	\$84,294,041	\$87,767,148	\$90,388,163	What we could tax
Actual Levy Assessed	\$76,955,697	\$80,224,068	\$83,468,800	\$86,593,963	\$90,188,163	What we actually tax
Revised Excess Levy (Taxes not raised)	\$1,097,662	\$800,834	\$825,241	\$1,173,185	\$200,000	Unused tax levy
Budgeted Unused Tax Levy		0	200,000	225,000	200,000	
Increase in Actual Levy (inc. new growth)	4.0%	4.2%	4.0%	3.7%	4.15%	
Increase in Levy without new growth	2.33%	2.73%	2.32%	1.87%	3.52%	

“Budgeted Unused Tax Levy” line added by P. Ittig, February 2022

* Exempt debt - This is the net principal and interest payment required each year for borrowing projects approved outside Proposition 2 1/2.

**New Growth - This represents taxes from new residential and commercial development.

- No general override since 2007
- Exempt debt declines each year, High School bond ends in 2023



2022 Annual Town Meeting

Public Hearing
March 1, 2022

Select Board

Finance and Warrant Commission

May 2022 Annual Town Meeting Select Board Articles

Select Board – 1	Street Acceptance- Porter Street (portion)
Select Board – 2	Obed Baker House – Disposition of Town-Owned Property
Select Board – 3	Acquisition of Real Property
Select Board – 4	Disposal of Real Property (50 Carby Street – Grant of Easement for Driveway)
Miscellaneous – 1	Miscellaneous Article
Miscellaneous – 2	Miscellaneous Article
Miscellaneous – 3	Miscellaneous Article
Miscellaneous – 4	Miscellaneous Article
Miscellaneous – 5	Miscellaneous Article
Miscellaneous – 6	Miscellaneous Article
Miscellaneous – 7	Miscellaneous Article
Miscellaneous – 8	Miscellaneous Article
Miscellaneous – 9	Miscellaneous Article
Miscellaneous – 10	Miscellaneous Article

May 2022 Annual Town Meeting Budget Articles

Budget – 1	FY22 Budget Adjustments by Transfer
Budget – 2	FY22 Budget Adjustments by Appropriation
Budget – 3	FY23 Operating Budget (Appendix “D”)
Budget – 4	Disposal of Real Property (50 Carby Street – Grant of Easement for Driveway)
Budget – 5	Appropriation (\$) – Municipal Capital Improvements
Budget – 6	Appropriation (\$) – School Capital Improvements
Budget – 7	Appropriation (\$) – Sewer Capital Improvements
Budget – 8	Appropriation (\$) – Additional Capital Improvements
Budget – 9	Appropriation (\$) – Stabilization Fund FY23
Budget – 10	Appropriation (\$) – OPEB (Other Postemployment Benefits) Liability Trust Fund FY23
Budget – 11	Appropriation (\$300,000) – Aid to the Elderly for Senior Tax Relief

Select Board 1 – Street Acceptance – Porter Street (portion)

- This is a standard article for acceptance of a street as a Town way. This article will include an appropriation to bring the road up to town standards. In accordance with Town policy, the property owners along said portion of the street will be responsible for betterment charges of 50% of the actual cost of the construction, and the town responsible for the remaining 50%.

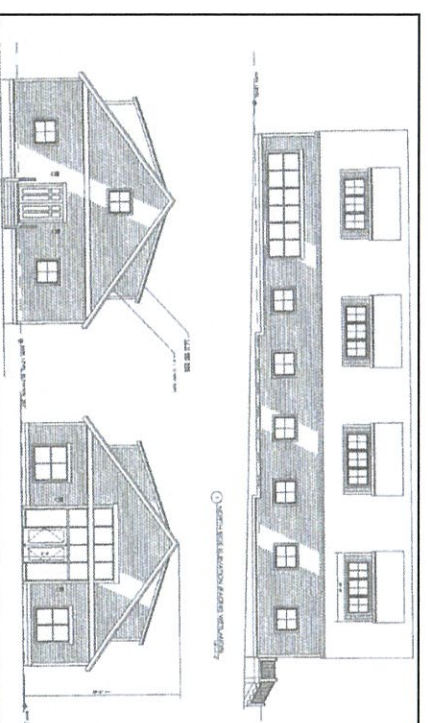
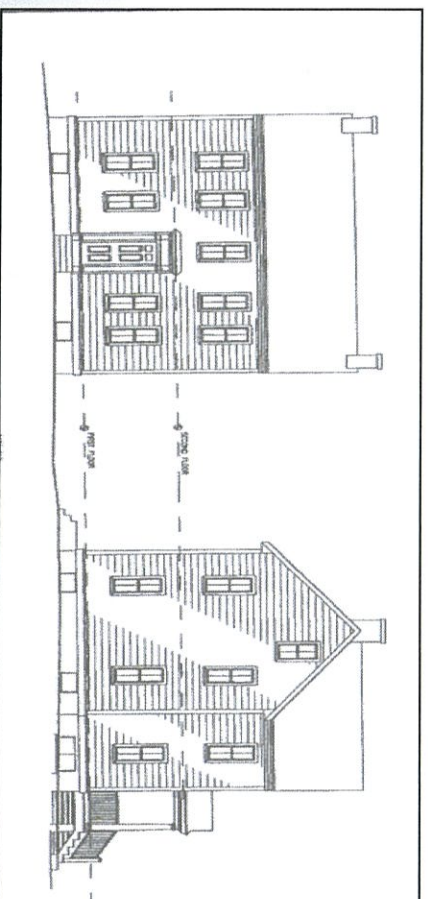
Select Board 2 – Obed Baker House – Disposition of Town-Owned Property

- This article is intended to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to take actions in conjunction with the disposition of certain parcels of land, for the rehabilitation and reuse of the Obed Baker House.



Obed Baker House – Disposition of Town-Owned Property

- The town has issued a total of six (6) Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the Obed Baker House.
- Todd Sullivan submitted a proposal for the historic rehabilitation and reuse of the building and was named the Designated Developer of the property by the Select Board in January 2022.
- The rehabilitation will include 3 phases:
 - Renovate and add to the Obed Baker House for residential units.
 - Build a 4,000 square foot building to be used a Veterinary Office and Clinic (in the vicinity of the existing Cemetery Garage).
 - Build a new Cemetery Garage on town-owned cemetery land.

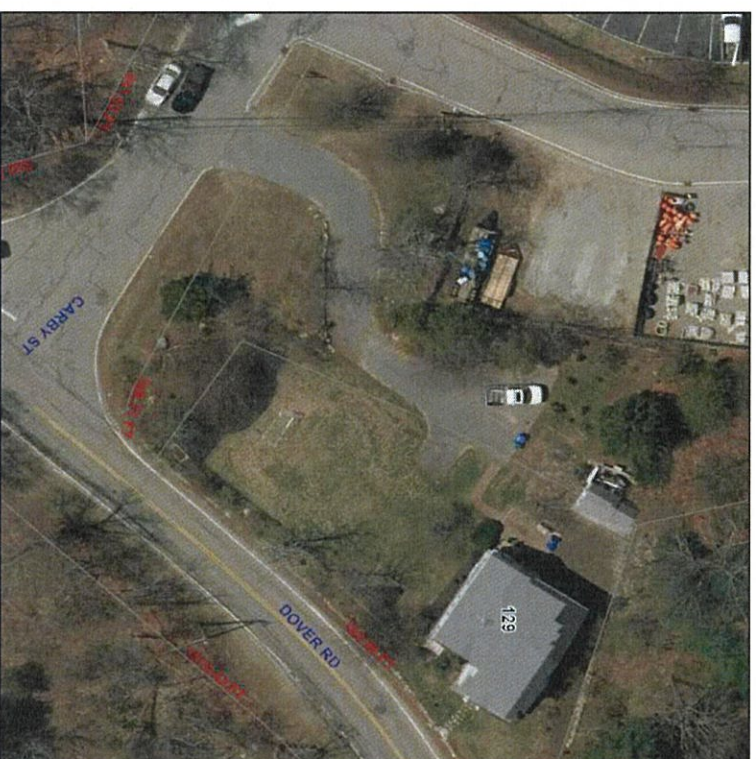
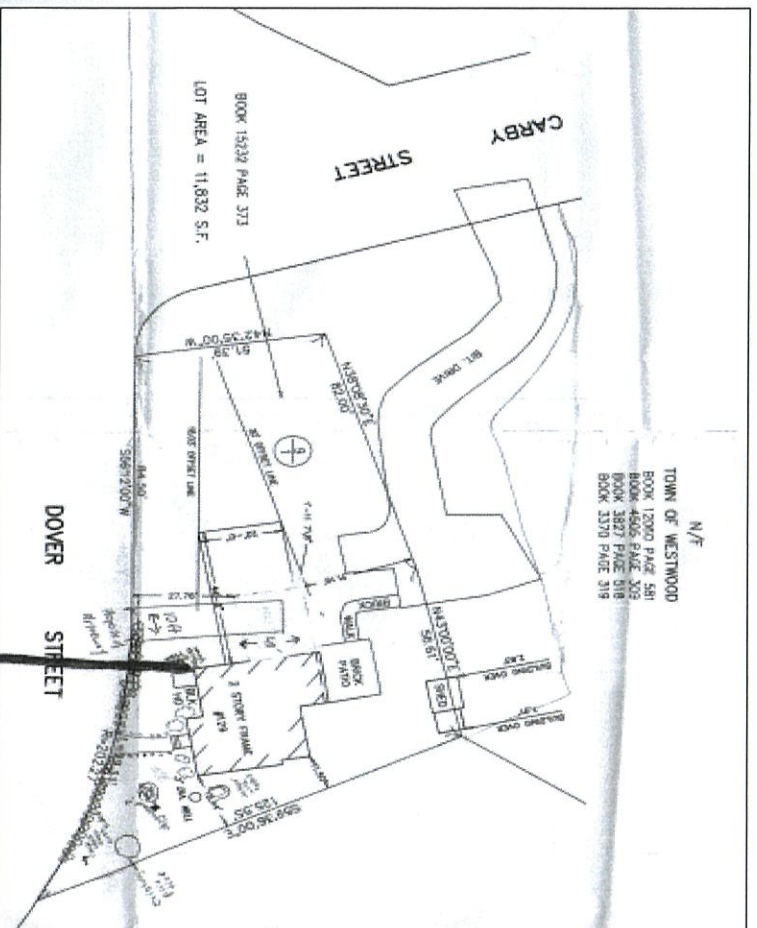


Select Board 3 – Acquisition of Real Property

- This article is intended to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to take actions in conjunction with the acquisition and disposition of certain parcels of land.

Select Board 4 – Disposal of Real Property (50 Carby Street – Grant of Easement for Driveway)

- This article is intended to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to take actions in conjunction with the acquisition and disposition of certain parcels of land.



Select Board Miscellaneous Articles – 1 to 10

- These articles serve as placeholders to insert an article in support of Town Government that may come up before the official Warrant is approved.
- The town currently has ten (10) miscellaneous articles.



Select Board and Town Staff

Michael F. Walsh – Chair

John M. Hickey – Clerk

Robert R. Gotti – Third Member

Christopher Coleman – Town Administrator

Pamela Dukeman – Assistant Town Administrator/Finance Director

Patrick Ahearn – Town Counsel

Westwood Finance and Warrant Commission

February 2022 BUDGET MEETING

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

ZOOM Webinar

6:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, On June 16, 2021, Governor Baker signed into law an Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted during the State of Emergency. This Act includes an extension, until April 1, 2022, of the remote meeting provisions of his March 12, 2020, Executive Order. This meeting will be conducted via remote means. Members of the public who wish to access the meeting may do so by using the Webinar link below. Every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts, we will post on the Town website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

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You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Feb 8, 2022 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Finance and Warrant Commission

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82474136811?pwd=bn81YzZpRTVmcE5uY1lwQ2x5UFdxZz09>

Passcode: 718885

Or Telephone:

833 548 0282 (Toll Free) or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free) or 888 475 4499 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0276 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 824 7413 6811

FinCom Chair Dianne McCarthy called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and welcomed members to the February Zoom Meeting.

All Finance and Warrant Commission members were present. The Chair also had the pleasure of introducing a new member, Rene Gauthier. Members gave Mr. Gauthier a warm welcome to the Commission!

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

Chair McCarthy made introductory comments. She then welcomed all participants; remote members, presenters, and members of the public and press to the FinCom February meeting. Ms. O'Donnell then called the ROLL.

Members were previously provided with the final agenda packet for this meeting and came prepared to hear all presentations.

The Chair then led members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair McCarthy then gave members an overview of current issues discussed by Select Board Members at their most recent meeting.

The Evening's Presenters:

Emily Parks – Superintendent – WPS, Lemma Jn-baptiste - Director of Business & Finance, members of the School Committee	WPS FY23 Budget Presentation
Pam Dukeman - Asst. Town Administrator/Finance Director, Chris Coleman - Town Administrator, Mike Walsh - Select Board Chair	Municipal FY23 Budget
Pam Dukeman – Asst. Town Administrator & Finance Director, Chris Coleman - Town Administrator, Mike Walsh - Select Board Chair	FY23 Comprehensive Town- wide Budget and Capital Budget Presentation

The Chair introduced the evening's first presentation. Superintendent Parks presented the Westwood Public Schools FY23 Budget.

After the Superintendent finished her presentation, the Chair asked for questions and comments from members. Ms. McCarthy then thanked the Superintendent for an outstanding job and expressed appreciation to WPS for coming before the Commission to present the FY23 budget.

The Chair then introduced Pam Dukeman, Asst. Town Administrator/Finance Director, Chris Coleman, Town Administrator and Mike Walsh, Select Board Chair to present the Municipal FY23 Budget and the FY23 Comprehensive Town-wide Budget and Capital Budget Presentation.

Ms. Dukeman then presented the Town of Westwood Budget Finances for the 2022 Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles. The Chair then opened the meeting to questions and comments from members. Following Q&A, the Chair thanked Ms. Dukeman and her colleague. The Chair opened the discussion to "New Business."

The Chair and members made assignments for writing the 2022 ATM warrant articles. During the course of completing this work, the Vice-Chair explained the process for writing, reviewing and completing the job of article write-ups, including stating that the votes made by FinCom are open, transparent and available to residents to review prior to Town Meeting. Mr. Hertz offered to help new members with write-ups as well. The Chair also took a moment to thank the Sub-Coms for the work that has already begun in preparation for their presentations on March 15. Ms. McCarthy also went over the March meeting schedule and the details of the meetings. Members also discussed the options for time and schedule flexibility during this important time leading up to 2022 ATM.

The Chair asked for a motion to approve the January minutes, a motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. The Chair then asked for any comments. Mr. Ittig stated that he had comments to the minutes including which month his Citizen Petition Articles documents were included in the minutes, web-links that are not clickable on the PDF and that a paragraph he had previously objected to at a prior meeting was now in italics in these minutes. Mr. Ittig then moved to delete this paragraph in italics, there was no second to his motion. Seeing no second,

the Chair asked if members were ready to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved with a vote of 13 members in favor and one opposed.

The Chair again thanked all presenters and members for all their input at this meeting and then asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was offered and seconded. A ROLL CALL vote was taken unanimously in favor.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:39PM

For a complete video of the 2/8/22 FinCom meeting please see this link:

<https://westwoodmediacenter.tv/>

To view all FinCom Agenda Packets with related materials and presentations, please view this link:

<https://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/home/showpublisheddocument/24408/637786229831970000>