

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.

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: 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>