

**PARTICIPATING FINCOM MEMBERS:** Lois Stearns, Chair; Dan Campbell, Tony Matteo, Jack Spanbauer and Bernhard Porada

**ABSENT FINCOM MEMBER(S):** Sue Kaczinski

**ALSO PARTICIPATING IN VIDEO CONFERENCE:** Bee Jacques, Selectboard member (6:00-6:20pm); Bethany Walker, FINCOM secretary; Tyler Bourbeau BNCTV

Live via BNCTV & Recorded via Zoom  
Stearns called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

*Stearns read the following statement as per the agenda:*

*"Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL, C30A. s20, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Town of Northfield Finance Committee will be conducted via remote participation. These minutes will be posted on the Town of Northfield Website as soon as possible after the meeting"*

- **REMAINING DISCUSSION OF OPERATING BUDGET REQUESTS FOR FY2023 & DECISIONS ON FINCOM RECOMMENDATIONS THEREON**
  - Llamas not present but advised Stearns that she will have a spreadsheet and figures containing all capital plan requests, as well as any income available at the next meeting
  - The Agriculture Commission did not submit budget; it would be level funded.
  - The CONSCOM is working with Llamas to get the services needed via the current Boards Clerk; this would eliminate the CONSCOM increase in budget for hardware (laptop) as the Boards Clerk is already provided one.
  - The Memorial Day account will be level funded
  - ZBA never submitted a budget request and will be level funded
  - Brief discussion on EMS; no concerns with current budget submitted. If EMS should ever regionalize, there is the potential for a different hierarchy
  - Brief discussion on Highway capital request of \$200,000 for a truck. There was a bit of a misunderstanding by FINCOM members whether the \$200,000 would be used to purchase a used truck or if a new truck had to be purchased, would \$200,000 be enough; Campbell believed it to be closer to \$300,000 for a new truck.
  - Brief review of Police Budget. Increase to budgets and the SRO position
  - Recreation Commission; no increase to budget just a reallocation of funds within the accounts. Also needing a lawn mowing service
  - Brief review of Sewer budget and capital requests
  - The Tech School budget that was presented to the FINCOM was voted on and approved by the Tech School Committee
  - Treasurer/Tax Collector no change in budget
- **DISCUSSION & DECISIONS ON FINCOM RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CAPITAL REQUESTS & ALL SPECIAL ARTICLE REQUESTS THAT INVOLVE FUNDING ON ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT**
  - Llamas to hold a meeting with all parties involved in setting up a water district, including the East Northfield Water Co, boards and committees. A representative from RCAP would be invited as well as members of Thomas Aquinas. This meeting would be hosted by FINCOM on March 21<sup>st</sup>.
    - FINCOM members started discussion on the proposed Water District, however it was determined to wait til the meeting next week to see if questions will be answered.
- **REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF 3/7/22**
  - Minutes from the 3/7/22 meeting were reviewed.



**NORTHFIELD FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**MARCH 14, 2022 6:00 PM**  
**VIDEO CONFERENCE VIA ZOOM**

- Discussion on the wording about RCAP and how they are not engineers; would like the word "engineer" struck and replaced with "provide services"
  - *A motion was made by Stearn, seconded by Campbell, and VOTED unanimously to strike the word "engineer" in the paragraph discussing RCAP and replace it with provides other kinds of services...)*
  - *A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Spanbauer and VOTED unanimously to accept the minutes as corrected.*
- **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE**
  - Llamas not present; pass over
- **REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED REPRESENTING FINCOM**
  - Porada (Emergency Services Facility): next meeting is 3/15/22
  - Matteo (CPA): nothing new to report
- **COMMUNICATIONS**
  - Monthly Balances
  - Communication between Stearns and Llamas about setting up the meeting on 3/21/22 for the discussion on the Water District
  - Campbell announced the Caucus will be held on 3/15/22 at 7 pm
    - Cambell did report that Heath Cummings will be running for Selectboard again
- **OTHER ITEMS NOT GENERALLY ANTICIPATED 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THIS MEETING**
  - NONE
- **NEXT MEETING**
  - 3/21/22

*A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Spanbauer and VOTED unanimously to adjourn the FINCOM meeting*

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm

Submitted by:  
Bethany Walker  
FINCOM Secretary

Approved On: 3/30/2022

Approved By: Daniel R. Campbell