

PARTICIPATING FINCOM MEMBERS: Lois Stearns, Dan Campbell, Jack Spanbauer, Sue Kaczinski, Bernhard Porada and Tony Matteo

ALSO PARTICIPATING IN VIDEO CONFERENCE: Andrea Llamas, Town Administrator, Nathan L'Etoile, Town Moderator; Beth Walker, FINCOM Secretary

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 to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the Town of Northfield's website, at northfieldma.gov. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch the meeting may do so in the following manner: The meeting will be filmed and broadcast in live time by BNCTV, Channel 17 and a link will be posted on the Town's website at northfieldma.gov. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Town's website an audio or video recording, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting."

The FINCOM meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Stearns

• **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- The minutes from the May 12, 2020 meeting were reviewed
 - *A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Spanbauer and **VOTED** unanimously to accept the May 12th, 2020 minutes as presented. ROLL CALL IN FAVOR VOTES: Stearns, Campbell, Porada, Kaczinski, Matteo and Spanbauer*

• **UPDATE ON DISCUSSIONS RE: TOWN MEETING(S) WITH MODERATOR AND WITH SELECTBOARD**

- The Selectboard at their last meeting, voted to have the Annual Town Meeting and the Special Town Meeting on the same night; June 29th, 2020
- Still waiting on legislation approval, but the Caucus may be handled differently.

• **UPDATE ON PVRS BUDGET/ASSESSMENT**

- 5/19/2020 the budget subcommittee met and recommended to reduce the budget to be brought forth the school committee on 5/20/2020. Due to the longer than expected school committee meeting, it was voted to revisit the budget recommendation at their next meeting

• **AMOUNT OF FREE CASH AND REVIEW OF TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR FY21**

- Llamas reported on Free Cash
 - Highway/Chapter 90 and Green Communities didn't have reports turned in by deadline of June 30 to state. Money will show up next year
 - Enterprise funds certified

• **REVIEW DECISIONS ON RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY21 BUDGET ITEMS INCLUDING FUNDING**

- OPEB and Stabilization discussion. \$75,000 from free cash to OPEB and \$100,000 from raise and appropriate for stabilization
- Llamas completed spread sheet with all the pay grades, COLA's and Steps
- Llamas advised FINCOM that the COA may have a budget request change, however nothing has been submitted. Llamas to confirm with COA and advise if in fact there is a change to budget request that it be submitted asap.

• **REVIEW DECISIONS ON RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY21 ARTICLES INCLUDING FUNDING**

- L'Etoile discussed concerns about Town Meeting and having everything on one warrant. There is more flexibility with the two meetings (Annual and Special)
- L'Etoile suggested appropriately grouping certain articles within (1) motion. This would shorten the meeting; individuals still have option to pull out an article if they so choose.
 - Campbell suggested that L'Etoile give an explanation at the beginning of Town Meeting to this method
- Discussion on article 10; library door.

NORTHFIELD FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MAY 26, 2020 6:00 PM

VIDEO CONFERENCE

- Llamas to regroup articles and discuss with L'Etoile for final review
- Omnibus
 - *A motion was made by Spanbauer, seconded by Campbell and VOTED unanimously that the FINCOM support the omnibus as presented with the exception that it is subject to change should the Council on Aging put in a change. In Favor Votes: Stearns, Campbell, Matteo, Kaczinski, Porada and Spanbauer*
- Articles on Warrant for Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting
 - Well article removed from warrant
 - Preston Memorial was not recommended by the FINCOM however the Selectboard voted in favor of it and it will be on warrant
 - Right of Way (Schell Bridge) article removed from warrant
 - *A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Matteo and VOTED unanimously to support the articles as presented for both meetings. In Favor Votes: Stearns, Campbell, Matteo, Kaczinski, Porada and Spanbauer*
- Tax rate with the articles/budget as is estimates a tax rate of \$16.74, however should the school budget change, that will change the tax rate (.21 for every 100,000).
- **REPORTS OF PARTICIPATION IN MUNICIPAL MEETING**
 - none
- **NEXT MEETING**
 - Will only need to meet before Town Meeting, unless the COA presents a change request

A motion was made by Campbell, seconded by Spanbauer and VOTED unanimously to adjourn FINCOM meeting. ROLL CALL IN FAVOR VOTES: Stearns, Campbell, Porada, Matteo, Kaczinski and Spanbauer

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm

Submitted by:
Bethany Walker
FINCOM Secretary

Approved On: 6/2/2020

Approved By: Daniel R. Campbell