



**TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
Boxborough, MA 01719**

BOARD/COMMITTEE: Boxborough Finance Committee

DATE: Tuesday, May 3, 2022

TIME: 6:30PM

PLACE: hybrid (Grange Hall and Zoom)

In attendance: Becky Neville, Maria Neyland, Gary Kushner, Keshava Srivastava, Priya Sundaram (6:36), Sachin Mathur (6:37)

Missing: none

Other: Rob (Littleton TV); Kirby Dolak, Susan Bak, Jennifer Campbell, John Markiewicz

Meeting called to order by the Chair at 6:30PM

Maria-present, Gary-present, Becky-present, Keshava- present

Citizen's concerns – none

Minutes for April 26, 2022 were moved by Maria and seconded by Becky

Keshava-aye, Gary-aye, Maria-aye, Becky-aye

Approved 4-0

Becky requested the last 8 years of financial audits from Town Hall and they were delivered on May 3. The request was because the interim Town Administrator indicated that Boxborough's financial issues have been ongoing for 6 or 7 or 8 years. Becky talked to DOR (Jennifer McCallister) on process if we do proceed with a review of the audits.

New/replacement tax bills were delivered to those taxpayers who pay by bank escrow.

The Minuteman, Assabet and Nashoba budget information is on the DESI website. Student at Essex is not happening due to long drive. Minuteman tuition is down from \$122,811 with \$9000 capital fee for students. \$110,716 is the new tuition plus capital fee. \$152,135 or down about \$12000. Maria moved total other \$152,135

Keshava-aye, Gary-aye, Maria-aye, Becky-aye, Sachin-aye, Priya-aye

Approved 6-0



Assabet tuition \$39,000 and now \$17,234
Priya moved \$49,814 and Maria seconded
Keshava-aye, Sachin-aye, Priya-aye Gary-aye, Maria-aye, Becky-aye
Approved 6-0

Nashoba tuition from \$60,000 to \$54,429

Priya moved total other to \$92,429 and Maria seconded
Keshava-aye, Sachin-aye, Priya-aye Gary-aye, Maria-aye, Becky-aye
Approved 6-0

New budget at this point in the meeting is \$24,459,365 or 51%

The expectation is that a resident will move to remove the cruiser and the lieutenant from the budget. Becky has a memo from the chief on the lieutenant position. Becky will send the memo to the Select Board. There is a citizen who is asking why the FinCom is hiding capital in the operating budget. The FinCom policy is that when a recurring capital item is approved at ATM then it is moved to the operating budget for the following years. We have PPE and IT equipment in the operating budget along with the cruiser. Gary will check the recurring budgets for recurring capital.

The article 5 motion cannot include actual dollar amounts for State and cable as the State has not approved the budget. Instead, we will just indicate that along with free cash that we will use State funds, chapter 70 and cable funds without a dollar amount.

Gary asked about including the Tax Collector/treasurer salary in the motion. The TA indicates that the salary is in the range of the personal plan. Priya and Maria does not support. will table and ask the SB to bring to ATM.

The TA sent a letter today to the FinCom regarding the cuts in the executive offices even though we sent 2 letters to the TA asking to review and determine if any budgets could be cut.

Discussion on putting the \$2,000 back into the budget. What if the SB comes back next year and then wants their salary. Still have no indication from the SB on how they plan to use the funds. \$11,745 is the new budget with the \$2,000.

Keshava moved adding \$2,000 to total other to \$11,745 and Priya seconded
Keshava-aye, Sachin-aye, Priya-aye, Gary-aye, Maria-no, Becky-no
Approved 4-2

New total budget is as of this point in the meeting \$24,461,365 and 5.1%



Gary moved total budget of \$24,461,365 and Maria seconded Keshava-aye, Sachin-aye, Priya-aye, Gary-aye, Maria-aye, Becky-aye
Approved 6-0

Becky will send out the new budget (v11) to FinCom and SB
Maria asked that the SB understand our process in Town of items on article 5 when the SB and FinCom do not agree. This is standard procedure and has occurred at many ATM over the years.

The FinCom discussed the usage of free cash for the operating budget. The TA wrote a note strongly questioning the usage of free cash. Boxborough typically uses free cash of around \$300,000 per year in our model. Last year by accident the motion did not use free cash and the FinCom decided to double the amount this year.

The FinCom reviewed the presentation. The department cuts will have vocational schools added. The presentation was corrected to show xxx for tax levy which leads to a xxx tax rate

Warrant reviewed for recommendations.

article 4 -Sachin

article 5 - Becky

article 6 - Becky

article 7 - Becky and Sachin will do the con

Article 8 - Gary

Article 9 - Becky

Article 10 - Gary

Article 11 - Sachin

Article 12 - Sachin

Article – 13 Becky

Article- 14 Gary

article -15 Gary

article 16 - Gary

article 17 – Sachin

article 18-21 – Priya

article 22 – Gary

article 23- Priya pro and Maria – con

article 24 – Maria

article 25 – Gary

article 26 – Gary

article 27 – Sachin

article 28 – Maria

article 29 – Becky



article 30 – Sachin
article 31 – Gary
article 32 – Becky
article 33 – Becky
article 34 – Becky
article 35 - Becky

Liaison updates

SB – 55 on the meeting; bond signed; lieutenants retiring on June 30. Discussed on interim candidate (internal or external). Search committee and look to include a TA from another town.

EDC –

Planning board –

BLF –

BBC –

Personnel board –

RecCom –

Library –

Housing –

AB regional building committee –

Regional school meeting –

CPC –

CoA –

Water resources –



Sustainability – The committee would like to use funds to pay for a high school student to help, but not in the personal plan. Would need to work with the SB.

ConsCom –

Board of Health –

Historical commission –

Well being –

Correspondence – messages from TA re: free cash usage and salary for Treasurer/tax collector not being included in the motion.

Maria moved to adjourn, and Gary seconded
Keshava-aye, Sachin-aye, Priya-aye, Gary-aye, Maria-aye, Becky-aye
Approved 6-0

Adjourned at 9:20PM

Exhibits used:

Minutes for April 26, 2022

Budget for FY2023

FinCom presentation

Personal plan

Next meetings:

May 9 (ATM) if needed

May 10 (ATM) if needed

May 24



RFT tracker

Item	description	Amount	Start at \$150,000	comments
HVAC at museum		\$6,700	\$143,300	
Acc't Consultant & Training		\$39,820	\$103,480	
T/C consulting		\$5,000	\$98,480	
Hager well	Nov 30 2021	\$26000	\$72,480	
Treasurer /consultant	Dec 7 2021	\$10,500	\$61,980	
Hager maintenance	Dec 7 2021	\$3,500	\$58,480	
Tax collector consulting	Jan 11 2022	\$15,200	\$42,280	
Assessor	Feb 15 2022	\$3,743.00	\$38,537	
STM restoration	Feb 28 2022	\$50,000	\$88,573	Need to validate the amount from STM
Library pump for HVAC	Mar 15 2022	\$6,000.00	\$82,537	
Fire station septic repairs	Mar 22, 2022	\$4,758.68	\$77,778.32	
Police dept water pump	April 5, 2022	\$7,914.83	\$69,863.49	Hager well issues led to failure at police
DPW	April 19, 2022	\$1,600.00	\$68,263.49	
Police heater	April 19, 2022	\$4,084.17	\$64,179.32	Garage heater failed