



TOWN OF TEWKSBURY

TOWN HALL
1009 MAIN ST
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS 01876

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Robert Kocsmiersky, Chair
Jason Christian, Vice Chair
Richard Levasseur, Clerk
David Aznavoorian
Susan Bishop
Thomas L. Cooke
Richard Russo

Finance Committee

March 30, 2022 – Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

A public hearing of the Finance Committee was called to order by Mr. Rob Kocsmiersky, Chair at 7:05 PM on Wednesday, March 30, 2022. Also present at the meeting were Mr. Jason Christian, Vice Chair, Mr. Richard Levasseur, Clerk Mr. David Aznavoorian, Mr. Thomas Cooke, and Mr. Richard Russo.

Also participating in the meeting was town manager Mr. Richard Montouri.

Mr. Thomas Cooke was not present at the meeting.

2. Warrant Articles Public Hearing – March 30, 2022

Mr. Kocsmiersky spoke of the purpose of the meeting being one of hearing from the general public and Tewksbury residents on the warrant articles for annual town meeting and special town meeting. The finance committee has met with the town manager and department heads on multiple occasions over the past several months and reviewed the departmental budgets. Each article would be taken up individually and if anyone wants to speak on the article please approach the podium and feel free to ask questions or give comments. After the public has been given the opportunity to speak the committee may or may not have follow-up questions for the town manager. After discussions have concluded the committee will vote on how to proceed with each article at town meeting.

MOTION: A motion to waive the reading of the warrant articles was made by committee member Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by committee member Mr. Richard Levasseur.

Motion Carried 6-0

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Richard Levasseur to take petitioner articles 24 and 31 out of order, seconded by Mr. Jason Christian.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 24

The petitioner of the article Ms. Laura Caplan discussed the intent of the article that being to increase the safety of residents by having vehicles typically used for recreational use subject to removal if they are parked on public roadways.

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had questions regarding the exact definition of what is a recreational vehicle.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Levasseur to make no recommendation on the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 31

Mr. Gora Banerjee, residing at 36 Pilgrim Drive Winchester MA gave a history of the parcel and the reasoning behind the request to have the parcel rezoned from Residential (R40) to Multi-Family Dwelling.

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had questions of assistant town manager Steve Sadwick regarding the article and how many dwelling units could be put on the parcel if it were rezoned, also if any of the neighbors in the area have had a chance to voice their opinions on the article and that the planning board had made a recommendation.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Jason Christian to postpone a recommendation on the article until after the Planning Board has met and made a recommendation.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 2

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 3-25

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 3-26

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 3-27

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 3-28

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 4

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had comments regarding the substantial savings seen in the street light budget due to conversion to LED lighting. It was also mentioned that if residents wanted to see a detailed presentation of the budget they should refer to the January 11 Select Board meeting video.

The committee also noted that they had been meeting for months with the town manager and all the departments to scrutinize the budgets in detail. There was a question on allocations for the new DPW facility.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 5

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had a question on sewer connection fees.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 6

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Levasseur to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 7

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had a question on collection of stormwater collection fees.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 8

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had questions on the positive impact that these changes would have on residents to hear and see meetings on TV.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Levasseur to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 9

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Richard Levasseur, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 10

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee member Richard Levasseur had a question on grouting of manholes.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 11

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee member Richard Levasseur had a question on what the lifespan of fire hydrant is. The answer is 25 years.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 12

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee member Richard Russo had a question on the length of borrowing for the article.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 13

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 14

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 15

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee member Richard Russo had a question on when this was last updated.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 16

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members questions on the condition of the bleachers.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Jason Christian to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 17

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 18

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 19

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 20

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 21

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 22

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 23

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 29

Assistant Town Manager Steve Sadwick spoke on the article and highlighted some of the changes that were made to the article over the prior year with significant resident input.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Jason Christian to defer a recommendation on the article until after the Planning Board has met and made a recommendation. The Finance Committee will meet sometime after the Planning Board meeting.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 30

Assistant Town Manager Steve Sadwick spoke on the article and noted that there are documents available on the town’s website highlighting differences between past and present zoning bylaws.

Committee members had no questions but applauded the committee on their efforts to make this article the best that it can be.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Jason Christian to defer a recommendation on the article until after the Planning Board has met and made a recommendation. The Finance Committee will meet sometime after the Planning Board meeting.

Motion Carried 6-0

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

Article 1

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 2

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

Article 3

There were no residents with questions regarding the article.

Committee members had no questions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. David Aznavoorian, seconded by Mr. Richard Russo to recommend approval of the article.

Motion Carried 6-0

3. **MOTION:** A motion to adjourn was made by committee member Mr. David Aznavoorian at approximately 8:45PM, seconded by committee member Mr. Richard Russo.

Motion Carried 6-0

Documents Presented and/or Discussed:

- Annual Town Meeting Warrant available as of March 30, 2022.
- Special Town Meeting Warrant available as of March 30, 2022.

Approved on 7/12/22