



Town of Nantucket Finance Committee

March 9, 2023, Minutes

4:00pm Remote Participation Via Zoom

Staff:	Brian Turbitt, Finance Director; Mariya Basheva, Assistant Town Accountant; Jerico Mele, Director of Human Services
Attending Members:	Denice Kronau, Chair, Joseph Grause, Peter Schaeffer, Jill Vieth, Jeremy Bloomer, Joanna Roche
Absent Members:	Stephen Maury, Peter McEachern, Christopher Glowacki

Opening and Public Participation Guidelines

- Denice Kronau confirms the meeting order and public participation guidelines, emphasizing the use of full names for Zoom access.
- Denice Kronau confirms the presence of all members and persons, including Joseph Grause, Peter Schaeffer, Jill Vieth, Jeremy Bloomer, Joanna Roche, Stephen, Brian Turbitt and Mariya Basheva.
- Denice Kronau reminds the public that the meeting is being recorded and advises against screen sharing to avoid capturing sensitive information.
- Denice Kronau introduces each speaker on the agenda and requests members to hold comments, questions, or motions until their name is called.
- Denice Kronau mentions that each vote will be conducted by roll call.

Approval of the Agenda and Public Comment

- Denice Kronau requests approval of the agenda, which is moved and seconded by Joseph Grause and Peter Schaeffer, respectively.

Roll Call: Grause Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Vieth Aye, Bloomer Aye, Roche Aye, Kronau Aye. Passes Unanimously.

- Denice Kronau opens the meeting for public comment, noting that there are no public comments on items not on the agenda.
- Denice Kronau closes public comment and begins with the review, discussion, and potential adoption of the town meeting warrant articles.

Review of Town Meeting Warrant Article 8: Select Board General Operating Fund Budget

- Brian Turbitt reviews Article 8, highlighting two changes: a \$70,000 addition to the public works line item for cemetery mapping and assessments, and a \$800,000 increase in the education line item for salary adjustments.
- Brian Turbitt explains that the \$70,000 will be transferred from the sale of cemetery lots and will revert back if unused.
- Brian Turbitt details the total operating budget of \$116,235,316, including \$114,605,816 from the fiscal 24 tax levy and other general revenues, and \$1,559,500 from free cash.
- Denice Kronau calls for questions from the Finance Committee, with Joseph Grause asking about the certified free cash amount, which Brian Turbitt confirms as \$20,553,023.
- The motion to adopt Article 8 is moved by Peter Schaeffer, and seconded by Jill Vieth.

Roll Call: Grause Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Roche Aye, Vieth Aye, Kronau Aye, Bloomer Aye. Passes Unanimously.

Review of Town Meeting Warrant Article 9: Appropriation for Health and Human Services

- Brian Turbitt hands over the discussion to Jericho Mele and Dorothy Hertz for Article 9, which covers Health and Human Services grants.
- Jericho Mele introduces Dorothy Hertz, who presents the recommendations from the Contract Review Committee (CRC) for 2024 human service grants and the cannabis grant.
- Dorothy Hertz highlights the importance of cultural competence and the success of Health Imperatives in meeting the needs of the community.
- Dorothy Hertz discusses the collaboration efforts of Fair Winds and NAMI in addressing behavioral health issues and the success of their programs.
- Dorothy Hertz outlines the funding recommendations for various organizations, including the Interfaith Council, Meals on Wheels, Martha's Vineyard Community Service, Small Friends, the Art Association, and Sherman Commons.

Review of Town Meeting Warrant Article 9: Discussion on Cannabis Grant Recommendations

- Dorothy Hertz continues with the cannabis grant recommendations, detailing the programs of Fair Winds, Addiction Solutions, NAMI, and Health Imperatives.

- Dorothy Hertz explains the peer recovery program of Fair Winds and its success in receiving insurance reimbursements.
- Dorothy Hertz discusses the medically assisted treatment program of Addiction Solutions and its impact on the community.
- Dorothy Hertz highlights the educational program of NAMI for the 18 to 29-year-old age group and the culturally appropriate education and intervention program of Health Imperatives.
- Denice Kronau calls for questions, with Jill Vieth seeking clarification on the differences between the programs of Dr. Lepore and Health Imperatives.

Review of Town Meeting Warrant Article 9: Debate on Supplemental Funding for Substance Abuse Education

- Joanna Roche moves to accept the recommendations of the CRC, including the supplemental funding for substance abuse education.
- Denice Kronau expresses concerns about the process and the lack of involvement from the school system in the request for supplemental funding.
- Joseph Grause and Peter Schaeffer express similar concerns, emphasizing the need for a clear program and the involvement of the school system.
- Jericho Mele and Dorothy Hertz explain the rationale behind the request and the importance of addressing the urgent need for substance abuse education.
- Brian Turbitt raises concerns about the financial implications and the need for a more structured process, suggesting a special town meeting in November.

Review of Town Meeting Warrant Article 9: Conclusion and Recommendation for Special Town Meeting

- Denice Kronau suggests that the Finance Committee recommends an article for the special town meeting in November to address the supplemental funding request.
- The motion is moved by Jeremy Bloomer, seconded by Joseph Grause, and with the recommendation to submit an article for the special town meeting in November.

Roll Call: Grause Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Bloomer Aye, Roche Aye, Vieth Aye, Kronau Aye. Passes Unanimously.

- Denice Kronau thanks the CRC members and participants for their contributions and adjourns the meeting.

Review Town Meeting Article 10 General Fund Capital Expenditures

- Brian Turbitt gives an overview of Article 10, explains that all of these haven't changed since the committee previously and these are the recommendations of the Capital Program Committee.
- The motion to adopt is moved by Joseph Grause and seconded by Peter Schaeffer.
Roll Call: Grause Aye, Roche Aye, Bloomer Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Vieth Aye, Kronau Aye. Passes Unanimously.

Review Town Meeting Article 16 Miacomet Pond Dredging

- Jill Vieth brings up that the Finance Committee had already voted on this article, Brian Turbitt explains that debt exclusion language had been included inadvertently.
- Denice Kronau explains that the somebody who voted in favor of this article must make a motion to reopen and then to revote.
- Peter Schaeffer motion to reopen, Joanna Roche seconded. Vote passes unanimously.
Roll Call: Roche Aye, Bloomer Aye, Vieth Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Grause Aye, Kronau Aye. Passes Unanimously.
- Peter Schaeffer motion to adopt new motion, Joseph Grause seconded. Vote passes unanimously.
Roll Call: Grause Aye, Roche Aye, Bloomer Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Vieth Aye, Kronau Aye. Passes Unanimously.

Next Meeting

- Article 29 will be reviewed at the next meeting.
- Motion to Adjourn, Peter Schaeffer, seconded by Joseph Grause.
- **Roll Call: Grause Aye, Roche Aye, Bloomer Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Vieth Aye, Kronau Aye. Passes Unanimously.**