



Town of Nantucket Finance Committee

March 14, 2023, Minutes

4:00PM 131 Pleasant Street, Trailer Room A and Remote

Participation Via Zoom

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

Finance Committee Meeting Introduction and Public Comment

- Denice Kronau calls the meeting to order and reminds everyone of the audio and video recording.
- Motion to approve the agenda made by Schaeffer, seconded by Grause.

Roll Call Vote: Maury, Roche, Grause, Schaeffer, Bloomer, Kronau - Aye

- Denice opens the floor for public comment, noting that Curtis Barnes is present.
- Denice hands over to Brian Turbitt to discuss Article Three appropriations.

Article Three: Appropriation Prior Year Articles

- Brian Turbitt explains the need to transfer appropriations within the DPW due to spending higher than expected.
- Specific transfers include \$3,664 from the ambulance authorization to the fire department for self-contained breathing apparatus equipment.
- HVAC work at the school requires a transfer from another repair line to cover additional costs.
- Brian details the general fund transfer of \$174,331.96 to various projects, including airport projects and retained earnings.
- Peter Schaeffer made the motion to accept, Seconded by Jill Vieth

Roll Call Vote: Bloomer Aye, Maury Aye, Roche Aye, Grause Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Kronau Aye

Discussion on Old Town Meeting Articles

- Stephen Maury questions the source of a transfer from a 2015 town meeting article and inquires about the number of old articles still active.
- Brian Turbitt estimates there are more than 30 projects from previous town meetings that need to be closed out.
- Joanna Roche requests a list of pre-2019 projects that are still active.
- Brian agrees to provide the list and mentions ongoing discussions with the capital program committee.

Article Six: General Fund Budget Transfers

- Brian Turbitt discusses various budget transfers, including \$167,250 from police salaries to the operating budget for additional cruisers.
- Medical insurance is transferred to town clerk salaries to cover election and town meeting staffing costs.
- A vehicle purchase for the DPW is corrected by transferring funds from free cash to the operating budget.
- Fire Department transfers include overtime costs and additional lifeguard payments.

Article Six Continued: Human Resources and Police Department Budget Transfers

- Mariya Basheva explains the new self-government software for recruiting and the shift of health evaluations to the human resources budget.
- Peter Schaeffer questions the \$800,000 in medical insurance, leading to a detailed explanation from Brian Turbitt.
- Denice Kronau suggests conservatively estimating medical insurance to ensure coverage.
- Stephen Maury notes the excess revenue in the water company and other departments, suggesting it as a budgeting tool.
- Joseph Grause made the motion to adopt, seconded by Peter Schaeffer

Roll Call Vote: Bloomer Aye, Maury Aye, Roche Aye, Grause Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Kronau Aye

Article 21: Enterprise Funds for Fiscal Year 2024

- Brian Turbitt discusses the funding for enterprise funds, noting the contingency of a Proposition 2.5 override for solid waste.
- Denice Kronau inquires about the levy capacity to handle the override.
- Brian mentions the November meeting as a potential solution if the override fails.

- The committee moves to adopt the article without further discussion, made by Joseph Grause, Seconded by Peter Schaeffer.

Roll Call Vote: Bloomer Aye, Maury Aye, Roche Aye, Grause Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Kronau Aye

Article 22: Enterprise Fund Capital Requests

- Brian Turbitt explains the capital requests for the airport, including employee housing and road construction.
- Peter Schaeffer questions the need for all the housing units, leading to a discussion on the potential use of the property.
- Joanna Roche inquires about the total cost and town contribution, with Brian clarifying that the town is not contributing financially.
- The committee moves to adopt the article after a detailed discussion. Made by Joseph Grause, Seconded by Peter Schaeffer

Roll Call Vote: Bloomer Aye, Maury Aye, Roche Aye, Grause Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Kronau Aye

Article 23: Additional Budget Transfers

- Brian Turbitt details the airport's request for \$100,000 from retained earnings and the stabilization fund for employee retirements.
- The airport also requests \$2 million from retained earnings to cover potential overspending due to inflation.
- Island Home requests \$1,472,000 to cover costs incurred through consultants and travel nurses.
- Brian explains the shift from salaries to operating expenses to account for the increased costs.

Article 23: Discussion on Island Home Budget Adjustments

- Jeremy Bloomer questions the additional costs incurred through consultants and travel nurses.
- Brian Turbitt explains the shift in delivery model and the increased costs associated with it.
- The committee discusses the impact of the shift on the overall budget and the need to stay within the authorized amount.

- The committee moves to adopt the article, moved by Joanna Roche, Seconded by Peter Schaeffer

Roll Call Vote: Bloomer Aye, Maury Aye, Roche Aye, Grause Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Kronau Aye

Meeting Conclusion and Next Steps

- Denice Kronau confirms the date of the next meeting and the format of the joint meeting with the planning board and select board.
- The committee thanks Brian Turbitt and Mariya Basheva for their contributions.
- Brian Turbitt thanks the committee for their time and effort in preparing for town meetings.
- The meeting is adjourned after a motion by Jeremy Bloomer, Seconded by Joanna Roche and roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote: Maury Aye, Roche Aye, Grause Aye, Schaeffer Aye, Bloomer Aye, Kronau Aye