

Town of Hudson Finance Committee  
Town Hall  
78 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749

Minutes of the Meeting of October 7, 2021

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom, <https://zoom.us>. The meeting was publicly posted.

*Members present:* Guy Beaudette; Sam Calandra; Rob Clark, chair; Judy Congdon; Jillian Jagling; Andy Massa; Claudinor Salomão (who arrived at 7:19 p.m.); and Steven C. Sharek, vice-chair.

*Also present:* Tom Gregory, Executive Assistant; Patricia Fay, Finance Director/Town Accountant; Kristina Johnson, Director of Planning and Community Development; Eric Ryder, Director of Public Works; Joan Wordell, Town Clerk; Aileen Sanchez-Hines, Director, Hudson Public Library; Selectman Shawn Sadowski; Tom Green; Fernanda Santos, HR/Licensing Manager; Charles Yon, representing Native Sun Wellness.

The chair called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**Review of the Special Town Meeting Warrant**

The Finance Committee reviewed the Special Town Meeting Warrant for November 15, 2021, with explanations from Executive Assistant Tom Gregory and department heads.

**Article 1 – Non-Union Cost of Living (Original Motion)**

7:10 p.m.

On a motion made by Ms. Jagling and seconded by Mr. Sharek, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend the Article in the amount of \$75,212.26. The vote was 6-1, with Mr. Massa opposed.

**Article 2 – Funding Fire Union Collective Bargaining Agreement**

7:16 p.m.

Mr. Gregory told the Committee that the Collective Bargaining Agreement had not yet been ratified by the parties.

On a motion made by Ms. Congdon and seconded by Mr. Sharek, the Committee took a roll call vote to put off action on the Article. The vote was 7-0.

Mr. Salomão arrived at 7:19 p.m.

**Article 1 – Non-Union Cost of Living (Revised Motion)**

7:18 p.m.

It was noted that the dollar amount in the original motion was in error and was \$2,125 more than needed.

On a motion made by Ms. Congdon and seconded by Mr. Sharek, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend the Article in the amount of \$73,087.26. The vote was 6-1, with Mr. Massa opposed.

### **Article 3 – Capital Plan**

7:37 p.m.

Members of the Finance Committee asked Executive Assistant Tom Gregory and department heads about various aspects of the Capital Plan. During the discussion, Mr. Salomão asked for a list of all DPW vehicles. Mr. Ryder, the Director of Public Works, indicated he would provide it.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Calandra, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend the Article. The vote was 6-2, with Mr. Massa and Mr. Salomão opposed.

### **Article 4 – Amend FY 2022 Budget – Debt Service**

7:43 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon and seconded by Mr. Calandra, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend the Article. The vote was 8-0.

### **Article 5 – Fund Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund**

7:53 p.m.

On a motion made by Ms. Congdon and seconded by Mr. Sharek, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0.

### **Article 6 – Appropriation from Receipts Received – Transportation Network**

7:57 p.m.

On a motion made by Mr. Calandra and seconded by Ms. Jagling, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0.

### **Article 7 – Fund HVAC Maintenance Agreements**

7:59 p.m.

On a motion made by Mr. Calandra and seconded by Ms. Congdon, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0.

### **Article 8 – Community Preservation Appropriation of Funds**

8:03 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Ms. Congdon, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 6-2, with Ms. Jagling and Mr. Salomão opposed.

### **Article 9 – Community Preservation Appropriation of Funds – Debt Service**

8:06 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon and seconded by Mr. Salomão, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0.

### **Article 10 – Appropriation from Receipts Reserved – Washington Street Debt**

8:08 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Calandra and seconded by Ms. Jagling, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 7-0-1, with Mr. Salomão abstaining.

### **Article 11 – Amend Light & Power Surplus Account Vote**

8:11 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon and seconded by Mr. Calandra, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0.

**Article 12 – Confirmatory Conveyance – 62 Packard Street to Affordable Housing Trust**

8:14 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Jagling and seconded by Ms. Congdon, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article which corrected a clerical error in the language of the land transfer. The vote was 8-0.

**Article 13 – Vote to Accept M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 110**

8:19 p.m.

Town Clerk Joan Wordell explained the Article.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon and seconded by Ms. Jagling, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0.

**Article 14 – Amend and Recodify Zoning By-Laws**

8:41 p.m.

Kristina Johnson, Director of Planning and Community Development, explained the Article. She said it was the first comprehensive revision of the town's zoning by-laws since 1957.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Massa, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0.

**Article 15 – Amend General By-Laws**

8:38 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon and seconded by Mr. Candra, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0.

**Article 16 – Petitioned Article: Amend Zoning By-Laws**

8:51 p.m.

Charles Yon of Native Sun Wellness spoke in favor of the Article. It was noted that the petitioner is David Kane, owner of the land where Native Sun Wellness is located.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon and seconded by Ms. Jagling, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 5-2-1, with Mr. Beaudette and Mr. Salomão opposed and Mr. Calandra abstaining.

**Approval of Minutes: September 16, 2021**

8:54 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Congdon and seconded by Mr. Calandra, the Committee took a roll call vote to approve the Minutes of September 16, 2021. The vote was 7-0-1, with Mr. Salomão abstaining.

**Address Issues of Committee Meeting Procedure and Decorum**

8:56 p.m.

The chair recognized Mr. Massa who initiated a discussion about the two major roles of the Finance Committee: (1) taking positions "in the best interests of the town" on Town Meeting Articles and (2) reviewing requests for transfers from the Reserve Fund. Mr. Massa encouraged the Committee to engage in more rigorous discussion on all matters. He said he was offended when a Committee member recently described one matter as "a no brainer". Several Committee members made brief comments. Mr. Calandra said the Finance Committee has more legal authority than it exercises. Ms. Congdon said she does research prior to Committee meetings, limiting the need for questions or lengthy discussion at

meetings. Mr. Sharek said the Committee needs to insist that the School Department attends Finance Committee budget hearings.  
No votes were taken.

**Adjournment**

9:14 p.m.

Ms. Congdon made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Calandra. With no objections, the Finance Committee meeting was adjourned.

*Minutes prepared by Steven C. Sharek*