

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

Minutes of the Meeting of March 11, 2021

The meeting was held remotely via Zoom, <https://zoom.us>. The meeting was publicly posted. It was held in conformance with the Governor's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, suspending provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 20, which require meetings to be held in a public location.

Members present: Guy Beaudette; Sam Calandra; Rob Clark, chair; Andy Horvitz; Jillian Jagling; Andy Massa; Shawn Sadowski; Claudinor Salomão; and Steven C. Sharek, vice-chair.

Also present: Tom Moses, Executive Assistant; Patricia Fay, Finance Director/Town Accountant; Steven Santos, Director of Recreation and Parks; Jeff Supernor, chair, Hudson Municipal Light Board; Tracey Gustafson, Additions Referral Center; and Brian White of Hudson, member of the Green Hudson organization.

The chair called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Budget Review

The Finance Committee reviewed proposed FY 2022 budgets with Mr. Santos and Mr. Supernor. Following this review, the Committee took votes on individual department budgets.

Recreation and Parks Commission

7:23 p.m.

On a motion made by Mr. Sadowski and seconded by Mr. Salomão, the Committee took a roll call vote to approve the Recreation and Parks Commission budget in the amount of \$415,096. The vote was 9-0.

Municipal Light Board

7:31 p.m.

On a motion made by Mr. Salomão and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to approve the Municipal Light Board budget in the amount of \$3,600. The vote was 9-0.

Review of Town Meeting Warrant Articles

7:31 p.m.

The Finance Committee began reviewing the 32 Articles appearing on the Warrant for Town Meeting on May 1, 2021. The Committee met with Ms. Gustafson regarding Article 31, Mr. White regarding Article 32, and Mr. Moses regarding all the other Articles. The Committee took votes on the Articles.

Article 1 – FY2021 PFAS Filtration Media Replacement

7:31 p.m.

Mr. Moses noted that the amount to be appropriated in this Article has been amended by the Board of Selectmen and has increased from \$225,000 to \$350,000.

On a motion made by Mr. Horvitz and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0-1 with Mr. Calandra abstaining.

Article 2 – FY2022 Budget

7:32 p.m.

The Committee discussed briefly but did not act on Article 2 at this time. Instead, it took out of order petitioned Articles 31 and 32.

Article 31 - Petitioned Article: Addictions Referral Center

7:42 p.m.

On a motion made by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend his Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 32 – Petitioned Article: Water Quality Monitoring of the Assabet River

7:48 p.m.

On a motion made by Mr. Horvitz and seconded by Ms. Jagling, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 6-3, with Mr. Beaudette, Mr. Sadowski, and Mr. Salomão opposed.

Article 3 – Capital Plan

7:53 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-1, with Mr. Salomão opposed.

Article 4 – Water System Improvements

7:55 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Ms. Jagling, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 5 – Police Department Collective Bargaining Agreements

7:57 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski and seconded by Mr. Calandra, the Committee took a roll call vote to pass over this Article until more information becomes available. The vote was 9-0.

Article 6 – PEG Access and Cable Related Budget

7:58 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski and seconded by Mr. Horvitz, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 7 – Appropriation from Receipts Reserved – Washington Street Debt

8:00 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski and seconded by Mr. Horvitz, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 8 – Appropriation from Receipts Reserved – Transportation Network

8:02 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski and seconded by Mr. Clark, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

**Article 9 – Fund Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund
and**

Article 10 – Fund Workers’ Compensation Trust Fund

8:05 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend both Articles in one vote. The vote was 9-0.

Article 11 – Fund Sick and Vacation Buy-Back

8:07 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Horvitz and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 12 – Fund Other Post Employment Benefit (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund

8:08 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Horvitz, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 13 – Fund General Stabilization Fund

8:10 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 14 – Reserve Fund

8:10 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski and seconded by Mr. Horvitz, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 15 – Community Preservation Reservation of Funds

8:13 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski and seconded by Mr. Horvitz, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-1, with Mr. Massa opposed.

Article 16 – Community Preservation Transfer to Affordable Housing

8:15 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski and seconded by Mr. Sharek, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 17 – Joint Dispatch Offset Receipts

8:22 p.m.

On a motion by Ms. Jagling and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0-1, with Mr. Salomão abstaining.

Article 18 – Lake Boon Weed Treatment/Control

8:23 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 6-3, with Mr. Beaudette, Mr. Massa, and Mr. Salomão opposed.

Article 19 – Petition for a Special Act – Police Details by 65 to 70-Year-Olds

8:27 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski and seconded by Mr. Horvitz, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 20 – Departmental Revolving Funds Annual Spending Limits

8:28 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-1, with Mr. Salomão opposed.

Articles 21, 22 and 23

8:29 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend all three Articles in one vote. The vote failed, with five of the nine members either opposed or abstaining.

The Committee then proceeded to take separate votes on the individual Articles.

Article 21 – Light and Power Surplus Account

8:31 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0-1, with Mr. Calandra abstaining.

Article 22 – Annual Town Reports

8:31 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 23 – Borrowing in Anticipation of Revenue

8:32 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 24 – DPW Sludge Removal Contracts – Five Years

8:33 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Horvitz and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 25 – Amend Town Charter: Executive Assistant Residency Requirement by Special Act

8:38 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Beaudette and seconded by Mr. Clark, the Committee took a roll call vote to pass over this Article until finalized language was made available. The vote was 6-3, with Mr. Massa, Mr. Sadowski, and Mr. Sharek opposed.

Article 26 – Amend Town Charter: Change Board of Selectmen to Select Board by Special Act

8:41 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski and seconded by Mr. Sharek, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 6-1-2, with Mr. Beaudette opposed and Mr. Calandra and Mr. Massa abstaining.

Article 27 – Amend General By-Laws: Change Board of Selectmen to Select Board

8:43 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski and seconded by Mr. Horvitz, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0-1, with Mr. Calandra abstaining.

Article 28 – Amend Zoning By-Laws: Change Board of Selectmen to Select Board

8:45 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Horvitz and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 8-0-1, with Mr. Calandra abstaining.

Article 29 – Amend General By-Laws: Solicitation Fee

8:46 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sadowski and seconded by Mr. Horvitz, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote was 9-0.

Article 30 – Road Acceptance: Indian Lakeshore Drive Extension & Municipal Easements

8:46 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Sharek and seconded by Mr. Clark, the Committee took a roll call vote to recommend this Article. The vote failed. The vote was 2-1-6, with only Mr. Sharek and Mr. Clark in favor, Mr. Massa opposed, and the other six members abstaining.

Article 2 – FY2022 Budget

8:54 p.m.

On a motion by Mr. Calandra and seconded by Mr. Sadowski, the Committee took a roll call vote to postpone action on this Article until the Committee hears from the Hudson School Department. The vote was 9-0.

Adjournment

8:56 p.m.

Mr. Sadowski made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Horvitz. By voice vote, the Finance Committee voted 9-0 to adjourn.

Minutes prepared by Steven C. Sharek