



## TOWN OF NAHANT Advisory and Finance Committee

Robert Vanderslice, Chairman Julie Tarmy, Secretary Peter Barba Barbara Beatty DeWitt Brown Dan McMackin Dana Sheehan Deborah Warren Judy Zahora

Wednesday April 13, 2022 FinCom meeting by Zoom.

Members Present: Tarmy, Vanderslice, Beatty, McMackin, Zahora, Warren, Sheehan, Barba, Brown

Members Absent: none

Others Present: A. Barletta, A. Nieto, K. Marden

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Minutes: Motion to approve amended minutes of March 30, 2022 made by Warren, seconded by Beatty. Unanimous Ayes.

## Town Government/Benefits & Insurance

A. Barletta went over highlights. Shared TAB 3A of Budget book on screen. Row 274 – 2.94% increase. Backs out one-time expense using Free Cash.

Debt payment Capital purchases. Looked at core budget where we use sound practices. This # funded mostly with R.E. Taxes – not funded with Free Cash.

Very good budget. Cautious on how much stress we put on General Fund.

State Assessment of 14.86% comes through State 'Cherry Sheet'. Income in based on Governors budget #s. Will probably change after it goes through Senate.

Plan is to put \$275K into OPEB (\$25K) and Stabilization (\$250K). Last year we did \$25K and \$125K. Division of Local Services (DLM) recommends 10% of total budget to be put in Stabilization. Since 2018, we have been diligent about doing this.

Brief discussion on new revenues. Local meals tax estimated to be about \$60K... Short-term rental tax could be as high as \$100K.

Decreases in revenue - Military housing closing in September 2022. Benefits NOT being cut. Veterans' agent expecting decrease in # of veterans served so that budget decreased. Lighting budget decrease due to 'green energy' plan, LED lighting.

Library and Assessor's requested increase in budgets. Not sure what might come up at Town Meeting. Assessor's office doing succession planning, needs extra help – as does Building Inspectional office. Possibly create one position to assist both Assessor and Inspectional Services offices.

Brief discussion on cost of Employee Insurance to town. Will ask Assessor to attend next Monday's meeting.

Discussion on Citizen Petition. Will invite petitioner to next Monday's meeting. Brief discussion on difference between Town Article on Lowlands Drainage vs. Citizen Petition on Lowlands Drainage. Town has hired Dubois & King engineering (who recently gave a presentation to BOS) to do a study on all varieties of solutions – MVP, sea-level rise history, analysis on what other towns have done to improve relief. Results will be in most likely after Town Meeting. A. Barletta can share last night's presentation.



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Brief discussion on CPC article for Playgrounds. Barba stated a generous donor has paid to replace some items in playgrounds when they say a need.

Brief discussion on Article 28 (Storm Water) – this places another layer on administrative reporting – compliance issue. No \$ involved.

Public Comment: None

RV will post a meeting for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week, in case they are needed for completing the Warrant. He will also take a first run at the Cover Letter for Warrant. He will send Article Assignment list to committee.

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Motion to adjourn made by Sheehan, seconded by Barba. Unanimous Ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Minutes approved on April 18, 2022.
Respectfully submitted by Julie Tarmy, Secretary on April 20, 2022.