

**MINUTES OF MEETING
FINANCE COMMITTEE
February 27, 2023**

To view the meeting's recording, please click the following link:

https://hamden.zoom.us/rec/play/KaEqEq-WQqx1DJiWEQB1r1UVxpZzlwHfcw2yMrFxAUgVWKKu52QA7wneZNDeoJos9aHuzOQggfm1bje.X0teo_eRrDWfQl-A?continueMode=true

(Meeting starts at Time Code 00:35:02)

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A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Monday, February 27, 2023 electronically via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:33 P.M. by the Chair, Jeron Alston.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeron Alston, Chair; Lesley DeNardis; Justin Farmer; Cory O'Brien; Bob Anthony

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sarah Gallagher, Vice-Chair; Betty Wetmore

PUBLIC INPUT: There were 2 speakers in favor of #5

The following items were addressed:

**1. Refund of property taxes collected between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023 – (17)
totaling \$57,151.64**

-- Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Mr. O'Brien. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer asked if there's any way to bring this number down. Mr. Eatman said no, these are overpayments. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

**2. Refund of property and motor vehicle taxes collected prior to July 1, 2023 – (9)
totaling \$2,709.54**

-- Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Mr. Alston and approved with 1 abstention (Anthony)

**3. Refund of motor vehicle taxes collected between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023 – (32)
totaling \$8,536.81**

-- Moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Farmer. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer asked in terms of back taxes how are we doing in general. Mr. Eatman said we were trending the same as last year which is well. A vote was taken and the item passed with 1 abstention (Anthony)

**4. Appointment of Thomas A. Della Ventura to the Finance Commission for a term to expire
December 31, 2027 – (I-8)**

-- Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Mr. O'Brien. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer asked how many positions are for the general public. Mr. Grace said there are a total of 5 members per the charter. 2 are appointed by the Mayor, and 3 are appointed by the Council President. Mr. Alston said this person seems appropriate for this commission and he looks forward to working with him. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

5. Appointment of Christian M. McNamara to the Finance Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2028 – (D-6)

-- Moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Farmer. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer thanked Board and Commission members for their work and time that they give. He said he also thanks the Charter Revision Commission for adding this commission to help them do their job. Mr. O'Brien said he supports this appointment. Mr. McNamara is very active and vocal and helped raise awareness to the Town's finances and probably has helped more than anyone else in the Town and we're very fortunate to have him. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

6. Order authorizing interdepartmental transfer 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget – Finance Dept. - \$200,000 (Accrued benefits/retirement cash-outs) FROM E & C

-- Moved by Ms. DeNardis, seconded by Mr. Alston. DISCUSSION: Mr. Eatman said we budgeted 1.2 million in this account and it is currently at \$134,833. He stated there has been a lot of retirements and that he thinks this transfer will get us through June. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

7. Order approving and authorizing the mayor to sign an agreement between the Town of Hamden and ADP, Inc.

-- Mr. Alston asked the Administration to speak to this. Mr. Eatman said they'll have a presentation on this and went on to say that this is a twenty-first century payroll system that will help the Town be more efficient and effective in delivering payroll services to its employees and vendors. ADP will provide payroll, human resource, analytics, benefit analysis, including the 10-94 10-95 reporting that the Town needs for ACA requirements, aka the Affordable Care Act. He then introduced John Brickel and Matt Tinsley.

Mr. Brickel went over the following PowerPoint:

<https://www.hamden.com/DocumentCenter/View/7920/Hamden-ADP-Presentation>

Mr. Anthony asked are these basic parts of the overall package? Mr. Brickel said yes, this is basic and focuses on payroll, but there may be services included that you may or may not choose to utilize. Mr. Brickel went through more of the presentation and said he thinks security is a big part of why they were chosen. There was some discussion on how employees are paid and whether or not there was a savings in weekly or bi-weekly. Mr. Eatman said employees are paid on a weekly basis and in order to go to a bi-weekly basis it would have to be negotiated in the CBA's. Mr. Stevens asked if that would lower ADP's cost. Mr. Brickel said it would reduce it by a margin of about 20% or so. There was then discussion on how this is a cost savings to the Town. Ms. Kiely said she knows contracts say 1 week but why 1 week if there's a 20% cost savings and she wonders if they should ask for that in negotiations. A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

There being no further business Mr. Alston adjourned the meeting at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk
for Jeron Alston, Chair