

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
FINANCE COMMITTEE
May 25, 2023**

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A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Thursday, May 25, 2023. This was a hybrid meeting held both in person and electronically via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. by the Chair, Jeron Alston.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeron Alston, Chair; Sarah Gallagher, Vice-Chair; Cory O'Brien; Bob Anthony

MEMBERS ABSENT: Betty Wetmore; Lesley DeNardis; Justin Farmer

PUBLIC INPUT: There was 1 (in person) speaker

The following items were addressed:

1. FY 2023 Auditor Approval – Clermont & Associates, LLC

-- Moved by Ms. Gallagher, seconded by Mr. Alston. DISCUSSION: Finance Director Mr. Eatman explained how the State wants us to have an auditor by June 1, 2023. He said this has been our auditor since 2017 and this agreement is for 1 year. Mr. O'Brien asked if we did a bid process for this auditor. Mr. Eatman said yes, it was a 3 year contract and since 2020 the Town has been doing one year at a time.

Mr. O'Brien asked Mr. Eatman and Mr. Alston (also an accountant) if they were comfortable with our auditor. Mr. Eatman said he's been great to work with, he works great with the staff, he's accessible to answer questions and on time. He recommends moving forward with this and looking into options next year. Mr. Alston said he has no issue with this auditor. He's been responsive to the Council and meets the standards that are required and more, but does think there should be a bid process. He stated this is a small firm and for a larger firm they will pay more.

Mr. Anthony said he agrees with Mr. Alston but would also like to get out to bid. He then said he'd like this stuff to get to them earlier.

Ms. Gallagher confirmed that the only difference from last year is a \$1,500 difference. Mr. Eatman answered yes. Ms. Gallagher said she also agrees with getting this out next year.

A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

There being no further business, Mr. Alston adjourned the meeting at 7:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk
for Jeron Alston, Chair